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NOTICE

All communications intended for publication in "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to The Editor, 1, The House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.
Ordinary business communications should be addressed to The Manager.
The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any returned M.S., nor to return any Contribution.

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BIRTHS.

On December 19, 1908, at Changchow, to the Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Hutchinson, of the London Mission, a daughter (MABEL).
On Christmas Eve at Pootung to Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Peach, a son (JOHN NOEL LAING).
On December 28, 1908, at Shanghai, the wife of JOHN VAUGHAN, of a daughter.
On December 30, 1908, at Shanghai, to Rev. and Mrs. JOHN W. NICHOLS, a daughter.
On December 30, 1908, at Ningpo, to Rev. and Mrs. A. R. Kepler, a daughter, DOROTHY GRISWOLD.

On January 1, 1909, at Shanghai, the wife of F. F. BOLITHO, of a son.
On January 1, 1909, at Shanghai, the wife of A. G. HICKMOTT, of a daughter.
On January 4, 1909, at Shanghai, the wife of D. MACLENNAN, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

December 1st, at Calcutta. WILKS, RICHARD LAIRD, son of Sir Pelham Warren, K.C.M.G., H.B.M. Consul-General, Shanghai, to STELLA, widow of late Rev. I. M. Breen.

At San Francisco, on the 2nd inst., by the Reverend Dr. Ford, ALBINA LOWE ROBERTSON, eldest daughter of the late James Robertson, of Nairn, Scotland, to HAROLD LEUTH-WAITE FLETCHER, of Messrs. Carmichael & Clarke, Hongkong, second son of the late Harold Fletcher, of Waverley, Liverpool.

DEATHS.

On September 11, 1908, at Changteh, Hunan, GRACE VERNER BERT, wife of Dr. William L. Bert, American Presbyterian Mission.

November 26, at South Kensington, P. MCGILL GRANT, formerly of Shanghai, aged 57.

On December 24, 1908, at Wuchang, FRANCES, wife of T. J. Hollander, aged 38 years.

On December 26, 1908, at Shanghai, Captain JOHN DAVID CONSTABLE ARTHUR, aged 57 years.

On December 27, 1908, L. A. J. RODRIGUES, at Shanghai.

On January 1, 1909, at Shanghai, WESTON O'BRIEN HARDING, B.A., aged 27.

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ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.
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JAPAN AND CHINA.

(and January)
In an article translated by the *Japan Chronicle* from the *Tokio Asahi*, it is remarked that the general expectation that the new Japanese Minister to China, Mr. Ijima, would prove the right man in the right place already seems to be justified. The relations between Japan and China, which were for a time somewhat strained, are now returning to the former footing of friendship, so the *Tokio Journal* asserts, which proceeds to remark: The enthusiastic reception at Peking recently accorded to Marquis Nobushima, Count Hosokawa, and Viscount Kiyomura, of the East Asiatic Common Literature Association, should be regarded as a significant sign of the times. Again, the expression by Japan of a sincere feeling of sympathy for the sad events which occurred in China recently would appear to have given China a new appreciation of Japan and the Japanese. At any rate, it is a matter for congratulation that the relations of the two countries have begun to work smoothly. One thing that remains to be disposed of is the boycott movement in South China, regarding which it may be expected the Japanese Government will be equal to the situation. It would be no exaggeration to say that Japan and China are the axes on which the Far Eastern question moves, and as such there is every reason to expect the two nations to have the friendliest of relations. In order to bring their relations into closer touch it is advisable that a community of economic interests be opened between them, and this can be accomplished without much difficulty. To begin with, Japan should abolish the import duty on rice, while China, on her part, should remove the embargo on the export of the cereal. It is most encouraging to observe that China is beginning to bestow some consideration on this question, as otherwise the real stability of her economy could hardly be maintained. It will be recalled that when Chang Chih-tung was the Viceroy of the Hu and Kwang provinces the export of rice was permitted for a time. Now that Chang and Yuan Shih-kai, the most progressive of Chinese statesmen, hold responsible positions in the Peking Government, there is no doubt that everything that tends to improve the condition of China and her relations with other countries will be tried. Turning to Japan, conquies the *Tokyo Journal*, it will be seen that the import duty on rice was devised and put into force as one of the measures to meet the exigencies of taxation during the late war with Russia. The consensus of public opinion, however, is in favour of repealing the duty on rice, together with other injudicious taxes such as the transit duty, the salt, textile, and other imposts. First of all it is desirable that the rice-tax be abolished, for the reason that while the revenue from this source does not affect the Treasury in a very material degree it has far-reaching consequences on the economics of the country. It is more than probable that the abolition of the import duty on rice will be opposed by the landed proprietors, who are the only people to profit by the retention of the measure, but when the welfare of the rest of the people is taken into consideration no one should hesitate to advocate the repeal of the duty. The owners of landed property have been in very good circumstances since last year, despite the business depression that has been so prevalent, and they would not be affected by decrease more or less in the price of rice. From the *Sakura*, in whose

rank's representatives of the landed interest are predominant, apparently recognises the justice of an increase in the land-tax. Our Tokyo contemporary does not like to urge the increase of any tax just at present when the Government is engaged in the task of financial readjustment, and it is in favour of the speedy abolition of the import duty on rice instead of increasing the land-tax, because in the interests of landholders both these measures could not be adopted at the same time. This advice, if acted upon, will not only have the effect of relieving the distress among the poor, but will contribute materially towards creating a community of economic interest between Japan and China.

RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

(4th January)
In our telegram columns to-day the subject of railways in China occupies a large amount of space. The review of events in China for 1908, which appears in the *North China Daily News* just to hand, and especially that section devoted to railways, is of particular significance in explanation of the awakening of the Central Government to the real importance and value of railway communication as a means to the development of the enormous latent resources of the country. The writer in our Shanghai contemporary observes: "In no respect has the spirit of the times found better expression than in regard to railway construction. The year opened with popular feeling strongly opposed to all concessions to foreigners, and it required a struggle of some months to obtain the ratification of the agreement for the Shanghai-Hangchow-Ningpo line (March 31). On January 13 the agreement for the Tientsin-Pukow Railway was signed; the construction is entrusted to British and German interests, but the terms of the loan were the most favourable that had ever been obtained by China. The desire for purely Chinese ownership found further expression in the decision to redeem the Peking-Hankow Railway, and a loan of £5,000,000 was successfully floated on October 13 for this purpose. Another venture re-purchased by China was the mining concession of the Peking Syndicate in Shanai. As the year progressed, however, there has been a growing realization that China is unequal, technically and financially, to the task of providing herself with railways. The deadlock on the Canton-Hankow line and the refusal to the proposed railway from the 'at' town to Szechuan has led to the appointment of Chang Chih-tung to inquire into the subject of railway construction. As a result negotiations for a British loan to complete the main trunk line to Canton are spoken of, and it is inevitable that the same solution should be agreed upon for the Szechuan line. Railway enterprise during the year included the opening of the Haining and Sunning lines in Kwangtung, the completion of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway to the latter city and the opening of the connecting line between the terminus and the native city; the continuation of the Kaifeng-Chengchow line to Hsinifu. Work has been pushed on energetically on the Peking-Kalgan line and on the French railway into Yunnan. On the Canton-Hankow line construction on the first section from Wuchang has been begun; the German line in Shan-tung is also being pushed forward. The building of the line from Kwangchow to Kien is already in hand, and through trains are now running from Peking to Mukden, where a junction between the Imperial Railways of North-China and the South-Manchuria Railway has been a matter of arrangement between the Japanese and Chinese authorities during the year."

exchange. Many of these transactions fell due within last year and might call for purchase of silver to cover. These considerations, whilst possibly affecting the price of silver favourably, must exercise but a transient effect. The severe drop in the Chinese exchange cannot fail to stimulate exports from this country; but no immediate result can be anticipated, for not only do trade affairs move slowly in China, but also this is not the season for export; had the fall taken place in June, the effect on trade would have been more marked. Now that the price has returned after five years' interval to almost the lowest on record, the natural question recurs, whether lower prices can be anticipated. Before answering it is well to observe that the market conditions in February, 1903, and December, 1908, are quite different. At the former period silver had been discarded by successive Governments, and so hopeless was the outlook that there was neither a disposition to retard the sale of the output, nor a speculative inclination to buy. One factor and one alone, intervened in 1903 to raise and steadily maintain the price for over four years, nearly 50 per cent. above the price in February of that year, and that was, the necessities of the Indian currency. No consideration of the prospect of silver can ignore this element, namely: that ultimately, though not in the near future, the Indian Government will be forced into the market, as a continuous and almost monopolising buyer. The effects, so oppressive as they have been of late, would melt like snow, if the price touched a point when moneyed operators chose to come in, and lock up their purchases until the Indian Treasury balances began to unload on a heavy scale. But this is not yet—meanwhile, stocks are heavy, and supplies continue, so that the answer to the question is more a matter of time than price, and there might be much worse investments than a lock up of silver, when the record minimum prices has been broken. There is always a class of buyer who will come in and buy at what may appear to him a breaking up price, and the fact that silver has dropped almost continuously from 1903 to 2008, appeals irresistibly to those who like to buy when things are "in the dumps." The price of 22d. has been within 3d. of the lowest on record. The ultimate factor in price is the cost of production—a difficult denominator to determine in the case of a metal so largely occurring as a by-product as silver does. Present conditions indicate that production has overtaken consumption; whether the present low price will decrease the one and stimulate the other, the early part of this year will probably make clear.

Parliamentarism in East and West.

(7th January)
Dr. Emil Reich contributes a striking article on the Parliaments of the Western and Eastern nations to the December number of the *International (T. Fisher Unwin, tr. net)*. The comparative value of Parliamentarism in Continental Europe he explains as follows:—Real and effective Parliamentarism requires as its chief condition the wholesale reduction of that bureaucracy which, on the Continent, is called *administration* in France, or *Verwaltung* in German-speaking countries. The two sets of institutions are utterly opposed to one another in constitution, spirit, effect and tendency. In England, as is well known, the civil service is a minor thing, the bulk of Continental administration being done by the local self-governing county members. That administration by absorbing nearly all such persons as want to act as public servants, impoverishes the resources of possible M.P.'s. Had the continental nations, together with the framework of the English Parliament, adopted the vitalising English local self-government, they would never have lacked a sufficient number of able Parliamentary leaders. This, however, they have not done, and accordingly, Continental Parliaments necessarily lack that constant affluence of well-trained Parliamentarians without whom Parliaments can never do lasting and great work. With regard to the reaction against Parliamentarism in Persia, Dr. Reich thinks this is due to the fact that the pressure from the outside has considerably relaxed. In other words, Russia and England, having come to an understanding about their Asiatic policies, do not weigh with inordinate pressure on Persia, but he does not think that Russian aggression can be permanently checked, and that this guarantees the rise of a representative constitution in Persia, inasmuch as the Persians cannot possibly hope to cope with Russian aggressiveness by any other means than by engaging all the forces of the entire nation in the struggle. The same reflections apply to Turkey. Dr. Reich does not think that Oriental Parliamentarism is exposed to the same debilitating forces as that of Continental Europe. In Turkey and Persia the Western idea of an all-powerful administration or Civil Service is almost unknown. Their men have, owing to some of the most fundamental institutions of Mohammedanism, much opportunity of developing that tact and practical knowledge of public business which makes for the rise of efficient Parliamentarians. Their religion fosters, not the

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exchange. Many of these transactions fell due within last year and might call for purchase of silver to cover. These considerations, whilst possibly affecting the price of silver favourably, must exercise but a transient effect. The severe drop in the Chinese exchange cannot fail to stimulate exports from this country; but no immediate result can be anticipated, for not only do trade affairs move slowly in China, but also this is not the season for export; had the fall taken place in June, the effect on trade would have been more marked. Now that the price has returned after five years' interval to almost the lowest on record, the natural question recurs, whether lower prices can be anticipated. Before answering it is well to observe that the market conditions in February, 1903, and December, 1908, are quite different. At the former period silver had been discarded by successive Governments, and so hopeless was the outlook that there was neither a disposition to retard the sale of the output, nor a speculative inclination to buy. One factor and one alone, intervened in 1903 to raise and steadily maintain the price for over four years, nearly 50 per cent. above the price in February of that year, and that was, the necessities of the Indian currency. No consideration of the prospect of silver can ignore this element, namely: that ultimately, though not in the near future, the Indian Government will be forced into the market, as a continuous and almost monopolising buyer. The effects, so oppressive as they have been of late, would melt like snow, if the price touched a point when moneyed operators chose to come in, and lock up their purchases until the Indian Treasury balances began to unload on a heavy scale. But this is not yet—meanwhile, stocks are heavy, and supplies continue, so that the answer to the question is more a matter of time than price, and there might be much worse investments than a lock up of silver, when the record minimum prices has been broken. There is always a class of buyer who will come in and buy at what may appear to him a breaking up price, and the fact that silver has dropped almost continuously from 1903 to 2008, appeals irresistibly to those who like to buy when things are "in the dumps." The price of 22d. has been within 3d. of the lowest on record. The ultimate factor in price is the cost of production—a difficult denominator to determine in the case of a metal so largely occurring as a by-product as silver does. Present conditions indicate that production has overtaken consumption; whether the present low price will decrease the one and stimulate the other, the early part of this year will probably make clear.

Parliamentarism in East and West.

(7th January)
Dr. Emil Reich contributes a striking article on the Parliaments of the Western and Eastern nations to the December number of the *International (T. Fisher Unwin, tr. net)*. The comparative value of Parliamentarism in Continental Europe he explains as follows:—Real and effective Parliamentarism requires as its chief condition the wholesale reduction of that bureaucracy which, on the Continent, is called *administration* in France, or *Verwaltung* in German-speaking countries. The two sets of institutions are utterly opposed to one another in constitution, spirit, effect and tendency. In England, as is well known, the civil service is a minor thing, the bulk of Continental administration being done by the local self-governing county members. That administration by absorbing nearly all such persons as want to act as public servants, impoverishes the resources of possible M.P.'s. Had the continental nations, together with the framework of the English Parliament, adopted the vitalising English local self-government, they would never have lacked a sufficient number of able Parliamentary leaders. This, however, they have not done, and accordingly, Continental Parliaments necessarily lack that constant affluence of well-trained Parliamentarians without whom Parliaments can never do lasting and great work. With regard to the reaction against Parliamentarism in Persia, Dr. Reich thinks this is due to the fact that the pressure from the outside has considerably relaxed. In other words, Russia and England, having come to an understanding about their Asiatic policies, do not weigh with inordinate pressure on Persia, but he does not think that Russian aggression can be permanently checked, and that this guarantees the rise of a representative constitution in Persia, inasmuch as the Persians cannot possibly hope to cope with Russian aggressiveness by any other means than by engaging all the forces of the entire nation in the struggle. The same reflections apply to Turkey. Dr. Reich does not think that Oriental Parliamentarism is exposed to the same debilitating forces as that of Continental Europe. In Turkey and Persia the Western idea of an all-powerful administration or Civil Service is almost unknown. Their men have, owing to some of the most fundamental institutions of Mohammedanism, much opportunity of developing that tact and practical knowledge of public business which makes for the rise of efficient Parliamentarians. Their religion fosters, not the

China and the World's Peace.

(5th January)
If we may believe Sir Robert Hart, observes the *Full Mail Gazette* editorially, (and what Sir Robert does not know about China can hardly be worth knowing) the Celestial Empire is destined to live up to its title by becoming the supreme promoter of the world's peace. The Chinese, as everybody knows, are strong anti-militarists; they dislike and despise soldiers. But circumstances are compelling them to arm, and Sir Robert Hart looks forward to the day when China will, perhaps, say to the rest of the world: "Gentlemen, there must be no more fighting." That says Sir Robert, China would be able to do by virtue of her four hundred millions of population, which would provide her with an army the like of which the world has never yet seen—for numbers. In that way, Sir Robert Hart believes, the Millennium will come. If he is right, the Kaiser and all the other prophets of the Yellow Peril will look singularly foolish—at least they would if they were alive to assist at these exhilarating events. But they won't be—no more shall we—for Sir Robert admits that the Millennium is not coming for one, two, or three centuries.

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CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT.

TURKEYS' EXAMPLE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 2nd January.

The Prince Regent evinces great interest in the question of constitutional government.

He is constantly asking the Grand Councilors how it was that Turkey succeeded in instituting a Parliament within such a short period.

CHINA'S SOVEREIGN RIGHTS.

PROPOSED TREATY REVISION.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 3rd January.

The Waiwupu is determined to notify the various Foreign Ministers in Peking of that Ministry's desire next spring to proceed with a revision of the existing Treaties with a view of securing the sovereign rights of China.

PEKING-HANKOW RAILWAY.

REDEMPTION PAYMENT.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 3rd January.

The Ministry of Posts and Communications, on the 21st ult., paid over to the Belgian Syndicate the money for the redemption of the Peking-Hankow Railway.

FRENCH SAILORS AT WUHU.

ALLEGED FRACAS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 3rd January.

On the evening of the 1st inst., the crew of a French gunboat obtained shore leave at Wuhu. It is alleged that there was a fracas between the sailors and the native police some of whom were injured.

NA TUNG.

APPOINTED GRAND COUNCILLOR.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 3rd January.

Na Tung has been appointed to the Grand Council.

YUAN SHIH-KAI.

FALLEN OUT OF GRACE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 3rd January.

An Imperial Decree has been issued to the effect that Yuan Shih-kai, president of the Waiwupu and one of the Grand Councilors, has been in receipt of Imperial favours both before and since the accession of the new Emperor.

Upon our accession to the Throne we have always conferred honours on him on account of his abilities, so that he may serve us. Contrary to expectations, however, Yuan Shih-kai is at present suffering from a bad foot, and is therefore incapacitated from discharging his duties.

"Yuan Shih-kai is, accordingly, relieved from all his posts and ordered home for treatment."

"THIS IS A MARK OF OUR FAVOUR."

PRINCE CHING.

APPLIES FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 3rd January.

As soon as the Imperial Decree was issued concerning Yuan Shih-kai, Prince Ching applied for leave of absence.

ORIGIN OF THE DECREE.

PRINCE REGENT'S OWN CONCEPTION.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 3rd January.

The idea of issuing the Decree about Yuan Shih-kai emanated from the Prince Regent himself, who observed strict reticence before it was issued.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

LOAN NEGOTIATIONS PROCEEDING.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 3rd January.

Ko Ling-wei, Chung Kwong-yung, and Mr. J. O. P. Bland (re-

presentative of the British and Chinese Corporation) met together at H.E. Chang Chih-tung's residence for several days in conference over the subject of the loan for the northern section of the Canton-Hankow Railway.

Negotiations proceeded satisfactorily.

HUNAN-HUPEH SECTION.

PROPOSED APPOINTMENTS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 3rd January.

Chang Chih-tung proposes to appoint Chung Kwong-yung director-general of the Hunan-Hupeh Railway and Chim Tin-yan as engineer-in-chief.

He also proposes to depute Ko Ling-wei on a tour of inspection into the affairs of the Canton-Hankow Railway at Canton.

COLLISION AT CHINKIANG.

STEAMERS BADLY DAMAGED.

[From Our Own Correspondent.] Shanghai, 4th January, 1.15 p.m.

There was a collision between the steamers *Tachang Maru* and *Sinlee*, near Chinkiang, on Friday.

Both steamers were badly damaged; they had to be beached to prevent sinking.

The s.s. *Kanuching*, in order to avoid collision, was also beached.

Tachang Maru (Chinese rendering of *Daiter Maru*) is a steel twin-screw steamer of 3,711 gross tons and 12.8 knots. Built in 1907 by the Mitsui Bishi Dockyard and Engine Works at Nagasaki to the order of the Nishin Kisen Kaishaiki Kaisha. Length 282.1 feet; breadth 36.4 feet; depth 12.4 feet.

S.S. *Single*, ex *Victoria*, ex *Stracourt*, 1,350 tons gross, 9.34 knots. Built in 1871 by Wigham Richardson & Co., Newcastle. Owned by Ku Ji Sang.

S.S. *Kiang Ching*, ex *Haar Wager*, ex *Brunswick*, ex *Morua*, built in 1883 by J. and G. Thomson, Glasgow, 1,591 tons gross, 9.51 knots. Owned by Tsung Kee & Co., Ltd.

YUAN SHIH-KAI'S DISMISSAL.

DISCONTENT IN PEKING.

[From Our Own Correspondent.] Shanghai, 4th January, 1.15 p.m.

Discontent prevails (in Peking) at the dismissal of H.E. Yuan Shih-kai. The appointment is reported of H.E. Liang Tun-yan as president of the Waiwupu vice Yuan Shih-kai.

OPIMUM CONFERENCE.

AMERICAN DELEGATE IN SHANGHAI.

REV. E. W. THWING HAS NO OFFICIAL STANDING.

[From Our Own Correspondent.] Shanghai, 4th January, 1.15 p.m.

Dr. Hamilton Wright, one of the American delegates to the Opium Conference, arrived here from Hong-kong at noon yesterday.

Dr. Wright states that the object of the Conference is to ascertain whether the existence of the opium evil is real or not, and to devise means for controlling same.

"Only interested Powers have been invited to the Conference."

The territory of Hawaii has not been invited.

Rev. E. W. Thwing has no official standing at the Conference.

[When in Hongkong last week, Mr. Thwing stated that he had been appointed by the Governor of Hawaii to represent the Territory at the Shanghai Opium Conference, as Hawaii also has an opium problem to settle.—Ed.]

IMPERIAL DECREE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 3rd January.

An Imperial Decree will soon be issued commanding H.E. Viceroy Tuan Fang to open the International Opium Conference at Shanghai in February next. Three names were given to the Prince Regent from which to select one as China's chief representative at the Conference, namely, Prince Kung, Grand Councilor Li Chuan-lin, and Viceroy Tuan Fang. The Regent's choice fell on the last named official.

OPIMUM CONFERENCE.

VICEROY TUAN FANG CHINA'S REPRESENTATIVE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Shanghai, 4th January.

H.E. Viceroy Tuan Fang has been appointed by telegram from the Central Government, principal representative for China at the Opium Conference.

His Excellency will proceed to Shanghai and attend the opening of the Conference in February.

SELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT.

CHANG CHIH-TUNG'S NOMINEE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 4th January.

It is proposed by the Grand Council to recommend Chou Kailo, Leung Si-yi, or

Cheung Yum-tong for appointment as vice-president of the Waiwupu.

Chang Chih-tung favours Leung Si-yi's nomination.

YUAN SHIH-KAI.

SURPRISED BY HIS DISMISSAL.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 4th January.

Yuan Shih-kai was taken rather by surprise with the Decree commanding his retirement.

It is his Excellency's intention to remain in Peking in the hope that the order may be revoked.

A DENUNCIATORY COMMUNICATION.

PRINCE REGENT MOVED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 4th January.

It is reported that, prior to the issue of the Decree, a communication reached Peking from China, regarding foreign countries denouncing Yuan Shih-kai.

The Prince Regent read it and became deeply moved thereat.

Later, The Prince Regent issued the Imperial Decree concerning Yuan Shih-kai of his own accord. He did not consult even the other Grand Councilors.

Yuan Shih-kai's adherents became greatly alarmed on the issue of the Decree.

APPOINTMENTS.

POLICY OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 4th January.

The Prince Regent has informed the Grand Council that, in making appointments, no favouritism should be shown.

Men of ability will be chosen while the incompetent ones will be passed over.

His object is to secure the best men for the public service irrespective of party politics.

GREECE AND CHINA.

COMMERCIAL TREATY WANTED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 4th January.

Certain subjects of Greece have approached the Waiwupu with a request for the conclusion of a Treaty of Commerce with China.

The Waiwupu has deferred to the request and proposes to address communications to the Government of Greece, with a view of opening negotiations for a Commercial Treaty.

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT.

THE LATE EMPEROR'S SCHEME.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 4th January.

The Prince Regent's mind is constantly preoccupied with the memory of the late Emperor.

He has declared that he would exert his utmost to advance the scheme, formulated by the late Emperor, for the institution of constitutional government.

Lately, he has evinced the most lively interest in all that concerns the question of constitutional government.

YUAN SHIH-KAI'S DEPARTURE.

LEAVES FOR HONAN.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 4th January.

After the issue of the Decree ordering the retirement of Yuan Shih-kai, his adherents counselled him to defer his departure from Peking.

His Excellency, however, was of opinion that he had little hope of reinstatement and that his delay in leaving might lead to friction.

Yuan Shih-kai, accordingly, decided, after returning thanks, to leave the capital by the Peking-Hankow Railway on the 3rd inst.

WAIWUPU.

PRESIDENT APPOINTED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 4th January.

On the 3rd inst., an Imperial Decree was issued appointing Leung Tun-yan acting president of the Waiwupu.

YUAN SHIH-KAI.

DETAINED AT PEKING.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 5th January.

On the 3rd inst., Yuan Shih-kai was to have taken the Express train to proceed to his native place, but as soon as he arrived at the railway station he was stopped from proceeding by officers acting under instructions from the Central Government.

SEVERE DENUNCIATIONS.

TWENTY CHARGES AGAINST YUAN.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 5th January.

Censor Kong Chun-lum has, in a memorial, denounced Yuan Shih-kai severely.

He has formulated twenty charges against the ex-Grand Councilor.

NO VISITS.

CHANG CHIH-TUNG REFUSED INTERVIEW.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 5th January.

On the 2nd inst., after the issue of the Imperial Decree ordering the retirement of Yuan Shih-kai, Chang Chih-tung and Luk Taim-lum, on leaving the office of the Grand Council, proceeded to call on Yuan Shih-kai, who refused to see them.

PRINCE CHING.

PROSPECTIVE RETIREMENT.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 5th January.

The moment Prince Ching heard of the retirement of Yuan Shih-kai he applied for sick leave.

It is reported that it is his intention to withdraw from participation in State affairs altogether.

PROVINCIAL VICEROYS.

CONFIDENTIAL TELEGRAMS FROM YUAN SHIH-KAI.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 5th January.

On the 2nd inst., after the promulgation of the Imperial Decree concerning himself, Yuan Shih-kai despatched confidential telegrams to certain Viceroys and Governors.

HSU SHI-CHANG.

DENOUNCED BY A CENSOR.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 5th January.

A certain censor has denounced Viceroy Hsu Shi-chang.

The Central Government has deputed certain officials to investigate the charges.

A DENUNCIATORY MEMORIAL.

PRINCE IMPLICATED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 5th January.

In his memorial denouncing Yuan Shih-kai, Kong Chun-lum made reference to the coup d'état in Peking (1896) wherein a certain Prince was implicated.

FEELING AGAINST YUAN SHIH-KAI.

THREE TIMES DENOUNCED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 5th January.

The various censors in Peking have denounced Yuan Shih-kai three times, employing strong language in their indictments.

EX-VICEROY SHUM.

PROBABLE VICEROY OF CHIHLI.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 5th January.

It is the intention of the Central Government to transfer Yuan Hsi-sheng to Peking and to appoint in his place Shum Chun-lun (ex-viceroy of Canton) as Viceroy of Chihli.

CHINESE BANK NOTES.

FOREIGN MINISTERS REPRESENTATIONS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 5th January.

The Foreign Ministers in Peking have notified the Waiwupu that Chinese Bank-notes in circulation are becoming more numerous and that the Chinese Government must guarantee them before they can be accepted.

SIR CHEN TUNG.

A PERSONA GRATA.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 6th January.

Viceroy Chang Jen-chun has telegraphed to the Central Government that Sir Chen Tung Liang-chun's period of mourning (for his mother) has expired and that his services should be retained in Canton as director-general of the Canton-Hankow Railway.

The Viceroy has also asked that no reduction be made in Sir Chen Tung's emoluments.

An Imperial Decree has been issued sanctioning Viceroy Chang's request.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

BRANCH LINES.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 6th January.

It is proposed by the Ministry of Posts and Communications that the branch lines of the Canton-Hankow Railway should be placed under the management of officials.

H.E. Chang Chih-tung, Superintendent General of the Railway, does not approve of such an arrangement.

YUAN SHIH-KAI.

DEPARTURE FROM PEKING.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 6th January.

As already reported, Yuan Shih-kai was stopped, the other day, at the railway station just as he was about to leave Peking by train.

On the 5th inst., he left the capital, and proceeded by rail to his native home; he will follow him later.

PRINCE CHING.

SUFFERING FROM BAD FOOT.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 6th January.

Prince Ching is also suffering from a bad foot, which is getting worse.

On the 5th inst., after the Grand Councilors left their office, they called at the residence of the Prince to inquire after his health, but His Highness refused to receive them.

IMPERIAL ALLOWANCES.

EXPENDITURE TO BE FIXED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 6th January.

The Prince Regent has given directions to the Grand Council and the Ministry of the Imperial Household to fix the allowances for members of the Imperial family.

YUAN SHIH-KAI'S RETIREMENT.

FOREIGN MINISTERS' INQUIRY.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 6th January.

In consequence of the retirement of Yuan Shih-kai, the various Foreign Ministers in Peking have wired to their respective Governments suggesting that China should be asked the reason why such a step has been taken.

THE OPIUM CONFERENCE.

U. S. DELEGATE SUBSTITUTED.

[From Our Own Correspondent.] Shanghai, 7th January, 2.55 p.m.

Mr. Charles Denby, United States Consul-General at Shanghai, has been appointed American Commissioner to the Opium Conference to be held on the 1st February.

Mr. Denby replaces Dr. Tenney, whose services are required at Peking.

AMERICAN COURT.

REOPENS NEXT MONTH.

[From Our Own Correspondent.] Shanghai, 7th January, 2.55 p.m.

The United States Court in China reopens at Shanghai on the 24th February, 1909.

CHINESE POSTAL RIGHTS.

PROPOSED RECOVERY.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 6th January.

The Ministry of Posts and Communications is determined to recover China's Postal rights after China New Year.

YUAN SHIH-KAI.

REPORTED QUITE WELL.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 7th January.

On the 5th inst., a certain foreign Minister (Mr. Ijima) returned to Peking by train.

At the railway station, he met Yuan Shih-kai and observed that His Excellency was going about as usual without exhibiting any signs of a bad foot.

A DAMAGING MEMORIAL.

HIGH OFFICIALS IMPEACHED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 7th January.

In Kong Chun-lum's memorial denouncing Yuan Shih-kai, he implicated Prince Ching, Yang Shi-chang, Hsu Shi-chang, two vice-presidents of Ministries, and a certain Governor.

YUAN SHIH-KAI.

REFUSED TO RECEIVE VISITORS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 7th January.

Echo from the Past.

DASTARDLY MURDER RECALLED.

SUSPECT ARRESTED AT TAIPO AFTER THREE YEARS' HUNT.

Most people in Hongkong, or at least the majority of them, are of opinion that when a crime is committed in their midst and the police, for the time being, are unable to bring the perpetrators to book, they abandon the "chase" altogether. This allegation we hasten to contradict. Some three years ago two men and a boy, some fourteen years of age, were down to death in a most cruel fashion on the hillside near Shatin. As it will be remembered there was not a single clue left for the police to act on; but they did not succeed in getting the desperadoes and during the trial admitted sufficient evidence to warrant their conviction. We could bring forward numerous other cases, illustrating clever police work, but we will content ourselves with dealing with a more recent case.

On 31st February, 1906—very nearly two years ago—a most shocking tragedy was committed in the New Territories. A young Singaporean, second excise officer of the Opium Farm, by name Chau Jeng Chai, was brutally murdered by a gang of armed men, in his marsh at Tai Po.

It was reported at the time that during the night of the morning a party of armed robbers entered the marsh of the deceased, whom, by their noise, they awoke; when on being disturbed in their depredations they turned on him and after a very evident struggle between the deceased alone and his assailants, he was overpowered, and after disembowelling him and nearly severing his right arm from the trunk they made off without taking anything out of the marsh.

The circumstances related to the robbers having either been disturbed in their heinous deed or frightened in some way, for, notwithstanding the fact that they had already slain their victim and prepared a bundle of loot to carry away, that bundle was not removed, but was found lying on the ground, and inside the bundle, by Sgt. Lander, when he was called to the scene.

It was understood that the deceased had previously been threatened with a violent death and there was no question that the "attempted robbery" was merely a bid, used to draw attention away from those who might be known to have a grudge against the deceased.

It was a significant fact that a couple of days before the murder was committed, no less than six native excise officers stationed at Tai Po had resigned, giving, as a reason for such action, their fear that trouble was brewing for them, while at the same time the deceased's chair coolies bled without giving notice.

Nearly two years had passed since then. The ordinary man-in-the-street had forgotten all about it. But the police had not. Two years ago, however, the detectives of the police, devoted to find the murderers, have been on the trail, and last Monday we were given to understand that a suspect had been captured.

It will not be for a week or so before the suspect can be placed on trial, and some interesting particulars are sure to be brought to light.

ADRIFT TWELVE DAYS.

WITHOUT FOOD AND WATER.

Adrift on the high seas without food and water for twelve days was the experience last month of L. Cobb, a labour contractor in the employ of the Philippine Railway Company, and 150 native labourers whom he was taking from Cuyo to Iloilo, reports the Manila *Cadaver* of 1st inst. Starting at Cuyo early in December on the *Orchard* for Manila in tow of a launch, the line parted in a storm and the party was driven to the west coast of Mindanao, all alive but destitute.

Two launches, each carrying 25 labourers, started from Cuyo on 29th November. The first launch was also adrift, but reached Iloilo December 6. They were out of rations and had been hungry for half a day. They reported that the other launch with Mr. Cobb and party had left at the same time and could not be found.

The railroad officials took prompt action, assisted by Mr. de la Rama, who dispatched the launch *Camagui* the following morning with rations and food. The launch headed toward Cuyo, but failed to connect with the lost launch, returned to Iloilo that night.

A second and third attempt was made to reach the storm tossed party, expeditions being made as far south as the Cagayan Islands and to the south west coast of Negros, but no trace of the launch could be found.

When Mr. Cobb and his men were just about given up for lost, a telegram reached Iloilo on Christmas Eve from him. It was from Dumaguete and was to the effect that a landing was made a few days before on the west coast of Mindanao. All hands were safe and well. After a short period of recuperation the party marched to Dapitan, reaching there December 23, according to a telegram from consular authorities.

As soon as his telegram was received at Iloilo, Purchasing Agent Theobald Diehl, in the absence of Mr. Harris, made arrangements for a special steamer, wired the district governor at Dapitan to make the labourers as comfortable as possible, and authorized Mr. Fleischer, a merchant of Dumaguete, to advance P200 for the subsistence of the labourers.

Arrangements were made at once with Mr. de la Rama to send the *Camagui* to tow the launch and men to Iloilo. The men are now in Iloilo none the worse for their thrilling experience and prolonged fast, and will be ready to go to work with the dawn of the new year.

"PAINLESS" SUICIDE.

SHANGHAI LANDER'S FUTURE ATTEMPT TO END HIS DAYS.

A northern Chinaman, by name Tsui Lo Shing, a gold digger by trade, made a most desperate, though futile, attempt, to commit suicide on New Year's moon. Tsui Lo Shing came to Hongkong from Shanghai about a week ago, as he could not get suitable employment, which seemed to worry him, he decided to take the "plunge."

Arming himself with a rope, Tsui walked all the way from Wanchoi to Bonham Road, where he picked out a quiet spot, there to end his miserable life. He clambered up the hillside, facing the Diocesan Home, and, by jumping the cord around his neck, which, by the way, was protected by a tree—the one nearest the suicide, fastening the other end of the rope to a branch, he released his hold and dropped. An Indian policeman heard his groans, and spotting the suspended body from the road, ran up and cut the man down. It would seem that Tsui had been hanging there for some time, because when he was taken down it needed a great deal of resuscitation before he could be brought round. He was sent to the hospital for examination, and last Monday morning appeared in the Police Court to be bound over to keep the peace. Tsui, who is going back to his native country, where the climate is more suitable to his tastes.

Murderers Doomed.

SHA-TAU-KOK TRAGEDY RECOUNTED.

CAUGHT IN CHINESE TERRITORY AND TO BE BEHEADED.

The curtain falls over the scene of the Sha-tau-kok murder mystery.

Four men, who were arrested on the Chinese border, in connection with this tragedy, were hauled before the Nambor magistrate and tried. After lengthy evidence had been led by those who had been on the scene at the time, the quartette were found guilty and sentenced to be beheaded.

Sha-tau-kok, as it is commonly called, or Sha-tau-kok, as it appears on the map, is a village on the mainland near Shatin Island, in Mira Bay. The population is very small and made up chiefly of fishermen.

Standing on the high road, a few minutes' walk from the village, is a little mud-house in which lived a middle-aged man, his wife and an only child, and they earned their living by selling tea and cakes to wayfarers. It was in this little hut that the dastardly murders were enacted. Early on a November morning the master of the tea shop set out to walk to Tai Po to transact some business there, leaving his wife and child to look after the shop, which they had done on many occasions in his absence. That robbers had got wind of the shopkeeper's intention to visit Tai Po, and that they had planned to rob the premises while he was away was known only to them.

When the robbery was committed, whether in the day or at night, is not known. It is believed, however, that they forced an entrance into the shop, and proceeded to "carry out their plan." It can be supposed, in the absence of any eye-witnesses, that the women on finding the men in the house and, knowing the purpose of their visit, yielded for help, while the child began to cry. The robbers, it is to be assumed, threatened them to be quiet, but as the order seemed to have been disregarded, the mother and her child were seized, thrown to the floor, while the robbers proceeded to tie the pieces of rag round their necks, the idea being to stop any further calls for assistance—thus strangling their victims. Something like \$30 in money and goods were removed from the shops. On leaving, the murderers closed the door carefully behind them in order that they may hide their tracks before the discovery was made.

The shopkeeper returned to Sha-tau-kok some time the following day and was thunder-struck to find the shop closed. He pushed open the door to find out the cause—and the tragedy was known. "There on the floor were the corpses of his wife and child. In the next few minutes the whole village was thrown into a state of excitement. The Sha-tau-kok police were informed and after the necessary inspection the remains were sent to Kowloon for examination.

Soon after the murders had been committed, detectives got on the trail of the murderers and tracked them to the borders of the British territory. By this time the Chinese authorities had been apprised of the matter, which resulted in their capture, and subsequent conviction.

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KOWLOON CITY ROBBERY.

HEAVY SENTENCES.

The trial of the three men who committed the daring robbery on the 21st November last at No. 37, Kowloon City Road, came to a conclusion at the Supreme Court last Monday. The Chief Justice (Sir Francis Pigott) presided, while the following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. H. T. Richardson, J. S. Featon, H. Swait, R. Abraham, E. Raymond, G. K. Haxton and R. Aiken.

Li Yui, one of the women inmates of No. 37, Kowloon City Road, stated that she woke up in the morning in question and was surprised to find a man sitting on top of her. He seized her by the throat and pointed a knife at her. She was too frightened at the time to remember exactly what took place after that.

Honorato Martin, a gate-keeper of the Kowloon Dock, said that at 7.20 a.m. that morning, he was walking along the Kowloon City Road, when he saw the first defendant coming from No. 37, and going toward Hung Hom Market. The man was arrested at the latter place by an Indian constable and taken back to No. 37. Witness saw Inspector Watt search the prisoner and produce two pieces of wood with strings.

Li Chau said he lived at No. 37 with the woman witness. He had left the house early that morning, but in consequence of information received, he returned to the house, when he saw the first accused at the foot of the staircase in charge of an Indian constable. He saw his sister bleeding in the breast, whom he attended. He was afterwards handed two knives, one by his wife and the other by his sister.

After further evidence was taken, the prisoners treated the Court to a surprise by confessing that they did commit the robbery, but did not carry any knives. The third defendant went one better by telling the Court with a smiling face that when they went to the house with an intention to robbery, they expected to find the inmates sound asleep, but on finding them wide-awake, they had to decamp.

His Lordship said that on the face of the interesting statements made, he could not trouble the jury with any reference to the facts of the case. On a unanimous verdict of guilty being recorded, the first and second prisoners were sentenced to five years' hard labour, while the third received seven years' hard labour.

CLOTHES STEALERS PUNISHED.

THREE YEARS' HARD LABOUR EACH.

Li Chan and Kwan Ting, coolies, figured in the Criminal Sessions, which resumed last Monday (the Chief Justice presiding) charged with stealing four pigskin boxes containing \$1,728 worth of clothing, and with being in possession of stolen property.

It was stated by the Attorney-General, with whom was Mr. Denney, of the Crown Solicitor's office, that the prosecutor was a blacksmith residing at 59, Wing Lok Street. On the night of the 7th November he and his family went to bed on the first floor, and when he (the blacksmith) awoke in the morning he discovered that four out of eleven of the boxes were missing. Of course, the matter was reported to the police and the prisoners were arrested by a *lady* in Graham Street with the pawn tickets in their possession. The Attorney-General remarked that the blacksmith heard no noise when his effects were being stolen, and the very fact that he and his family went to bed with the windows open, suggested that the prisoners had entered by that way.

The prisoners pleaded "not guilty" to the indictment, but were found guilty after a trial and sentenced to three years' hard labour each. The jury, which comprised Messrs. H. Glynn (foreman), A. Morley, J. Dickie, G. Rapp, H. E. Craddock, E. A. Kennedy and H. J. Farnham, found them guilty, and sentenced them to three years' hard labour.

Matsheds on Fire.

SERIOUS EXPLOSIONS AT HUNG HOM.

SIX SHEDS DESTROYED AND DAMAGE ESTIMATED AT \$10,000.

gth inst.

Last evening, as we were going to press, the news reached us of a serious fire which had broken out across the water, but owing to the late hour we were unable to obtain any detailed particulars beyond reporting briefly the fact of the outbreak in our last issue.

The fire, or a series of fires, took place, as stated last evening, in a matshed, which was occupied by the contracting firm of Messrs. Kang On and Company, at Hung Hom West. News of the outbreak was telephoned to headquarters shortly before five o'clock, and immediately the entire fire fighting force of the Colony was called out, with Chief Inspector Baker in command.

The matshed in which the fire broke out was situated in Des Voeux Road, immediately opposite the old cattle depot. On the right were five other matsheds, owned by the same contractor, and which were used to store railway stores, which also included a large quantity of dynamite for blasting purposes.

When the firemen reached the scene, the matsheds presented the appearance of an immense furnace, and what with the crackling of the dry bamboos and palm leaves, and the occasional explosions from the dynamite, which was to be heard some distance away, the picture was a lurid one indeed. The firemen, who were aided by a number of Europeans from the Kowloon Dock, Indian soldiers, in charge of their officers, and several European civilians, made a strong fight to subdue the now increasing flames, which, according to an eye-witness, leapt to a height of over a hundred feet.

Only two hydrants were in use, and notwithstanding the fact that the force of water was good, four lengths of hose were not sufficient to do much good, especially when the tempests in the neighbourhood were in danger.

The fire, however, arrived in the night, and its power was too great to speak, the matsheds were raised to the ground and the fire, still burning fiercely, spread to a timber yard, setting fire to a number of logs. The fact that the wind suddenly veered to a favourable direction set aside all anxiety, as it drove the fire away from the neighbouring dwellings to a vacant piece of ground.

At about eight o'clock the indications were that the fire was under control, and at nine o'clock the last fireman was permitted to leave his post, the fire having been extinguished, except an smouldering heap, which was soon attended.

The origin of the fire is still a mystery, and is occupying the attention of the police. The damage done is estimated at about \$10,000, and is not covered by insurance.

SHANGHAI AIRSHIP.

The N. C. D. News, 28th ult., says:—

That portion of the community which gave itself up to recreation or merely exercise on the afternoon of Christmas Day was not a little surprised to see an airship making its way, not altogether willingly as far as could be judged, in a northerly direction. So many weeks have elapsed since an ascent of Captain Price's airship was first promised to an expectant public that the possibility of an actual flight, however, having once made the mistake, which all enthusiasts are prone to, of discounting material obstacles to the carrying out of carefully calculated theories, had learned his lesson and had been quietly devoting himself to preparing his airship for a trial ascent without public announcement. On previous occasions when the *Messenger* was to have essayed its first trip, it had been found impossible to inflate her in time for an ascent during the hours of daylight. Faulty generators and inefficient cable were, according to Captain Price, to blame. It was also found that the balloon envelope, made of the finest silk, was too weak to withstand the effects of the sun's rays, and was made and on two occasions the airship was ready for an ascent, but climatic conditions were unfavourable. On Christmas Day a further attempt to inflate it was begun; but it was found that there was not enough hydrogen available to give the airship the requisite lifting power. In these circumstances Captain Price's assistant, a man of lighter build, volunteered to make the ascent, and the *Messenger* left Chang Sue-ho's Garden shortly after 2 p.m. Unfortunately, however, dogged by a puff of mist, and being somewhat wet with the engine and the airship being a mere non-rigid balloon, the wind carried it, at varying altitudes, in the direction of Woosung, and ultimately the aeronaut was compelled to let out the gas and descended near a Chinese village some ten miles away. While he was engaged in making arrangements for the transport of the airship back to Shanghai, Chinese curiosity or mania for curiosity-hungry prompted the spectators to make off with most of the framework, which had been damaged by the fall, and to take the workman, who was limping towards 3 a.m., the aeronaut returned to headquarters on the shoulders of fourteen coolies. General sympathy will be felt with Captain Price in his misfortune; but, doubtless, he will be well advised to postpone, as he intends, a further flight for some months until he has perfected his vessel. The ascent on Friday of the *Messenger* shows that Captain Price has an airship in *posse*, and renders pardonable the enthusiasm which led him to advertise prematurely its capabilities. The money already spent on the ship amounts, we understand, to a good round sum, but Captain Price should be able to count upon being reimbursed as soon as it is an airship in *posse*.

RESULTS OF OPIMUM.

The habit is easily formed but hard to break. It brings its own high price, and to the poorest labourer. Many wealthy families, through this blighting curse, have been brought to extreme poverty. The labouring man who earns from \$4.00 to \$7.00 Mex. per month, will soon spend more than that amount on opium. As a result he will first borrow, then sell to a pawnbroker or others, his clothing, his home, his very wife and children to supply that awful desire for the cursed drug. Many of the dens of vice have received their supply of victims by the help of opium. Many have gone the limit until nothing remains but the craving for more to the opium, and they bring their death as their only refuge. The increasing number of opium suicides is new cause for alarm.

OPIMUM SUICIDES.

A doctor, a resident of Chaochow, in West China, tells of the ruin brought to this country by opium. He speaks of China as "The Land of Suicides," where there are "500,000 cases a year." In his letter, published in 1898, he said: "In the 30 days, ending June 18th, among the persons who came to our home for help there were 19 cases of opium suicide. I have also gathered statistics, given me by missionaries, from five cities:—

1. In a city, in the Province of Yunnan, of 200,000, the cases of opium suicide averaged one a day for 12 months.

2. In a city of 60,000, had 72 cases in one year, in which the missionaries were called.

3. In a city of 80,000, in the Province of Kweichow, in one year 300 cases occurred in which the missionaries' help was sought. (No one knows how many other cases.)

4. In a city of 100,000, in the great province of Szechuan, in one year, the missionaries of two missions were asked to save life in 400 cases of opium suicide. I have no record of other missions there. (Szechuan is where the largest amount of opium is grown.)

5. In the Province of Anhui, the home of Li Hing-chang, a city of 50,000, 80 cases were brought to the missionaries.

Thus in a population of 380,000, more than 1,500 cases of opium suicide occurred in 18 months in which aid of the missionaries was sought. This was largely in the West, where the drug is cheap. On the other hand, vast

The Opium Question.

AN EXTREMIST VIEW.

LECTURE BY REV. E. W. THIVING.

We have received a copy, reproduced below, of a "lecture on the opium question," by Rev. E. W. Thiving, special secretary of The International Reform Bureau, and "Delegate from Hawaii to the Opium Conference," delivered at a mass meeting of the Chinese Y.M.C.A., held in Canton, Monday, January 4, 1900. The words within inverted commas are as written on the "copy" forwarded to us. It will have been noted in our special telegram from Shanghai yesterday that Hawaii has not been invited to the Conference and that the Rev. E. W. Thiving can have no official standing thereat.

The text of the lecture as received by us is as follows:—

OPIMUM TRADE TO AMERICA.

Twenty years ago I took passage in one of the "Pacific Mail" boats to America. I was able to leave from Macao, and go on board the steamer by taking a large opium junk which was conveying a cargo of opium out to the steamer, some distance off from Macao. As an American, I feel deeply ashamed at this open violation of the spirit, and possibly the letter, of the Commercial Treaty between China and the United States, that has been going on for more than twenty years.

Art. II, that "Citizens of the United States are not to import opium into any open port of China, or transport from one port to another, or buy or sell opium in any of the open ports of China," and this also "extends to the vessels owned by the citizens of either power or to foreign vessels employed by them."

Yet it is an open secret in Hongkong, that American ships will clear for Shanghai and Japan and go to Chinese waters to Macao for a cargo of opium. They thus carry on the opium trade in defiance of the spirit of the Treaty and to the shame and injury of the American people. His Excellency the Chinese Ambassador Tang Shao-yi told me in Honolulu, some six weeks ago, that he felt keenly the fact that the *s.s. Mongolia*, on which he was travelling to the United States, was carrying a cargo of opium valued at over a quarter of a million dollars. This Chinese official has been most active in the Anti-Opium League in China, and he hopes that the true friendship of the United States will lead to a heavy co-operation in the prohibiting the opium trade. I feel assured that the people of America are now becoming aroused to the disgrace and the danger of this trade, and that it will soon be stopped, as far as American ships are concerned, except for medicinal uses. The American passengers on the *s.s. Manchuria*, recently signed the following petition, to the President of the United States, which has been sent to Washington. It was a part of the Thanksgiving exercises held on the *s.s. Manchuria*.

To the President of the United States, Washington, D. C., S. Manchuria, Nov. 25th, 1900.

On the day of National Thanksgiving, as we remember our own blessings of liberty and freedom, we desire that America may continue to be a leader in extending universal peace and happiness to other nations. In view of the noble efforts of China to secure freedom from opium, and as the use of this drug is increasing to an alarming extent in our own land, we, the undersigned, respectfully request your influence towards the speedy enactment of laws for the suppression of the opium traffic in America.

Territory, and by American ships to the United States, which has been found recently, examine the use of this drug is increasing to an alarming extent in our own land, we, the undersigned, respectfully request your influence towards the speedy enactment of laws for the suppression of the opium traffic in America.

PRESENT USE OF OPIMUM IN CHINA.

It is difficult to know at present how many of the Chinese have acquired the use of opium. Various estimates claim that a moderate figure would be between 10 and 20% of the total male population, or 25 to 50% of the total population. It is said that in some places 80% of the adult males use opium, and at least one-tenth of the women. Before the present anti-opium campaign began, there were over 1,000 registered opium dens in the city of Foochow alone. It is more common than rice. The Chinese often call it the "black rice." It is also estimated that the opium costs the people of China 200 millions of dollars per year. Sir Robert Hart said that the duty on opium, at the ordinary rate of 60 taels per picul, for the year 1897 should amount to 20 million taels or about 15 million dollars gold. The Government did not get all this money, however, owing to the various provincial leaks and sequestrations.

Every province in China has produced more or less opium. The money profit to the producer, the trader, the officials, and to the Government is the greatest obstacle to its overthrow. But the ruin and misery brought to the land by all these parties is far greater than a hundredfold so, than any money profit received.

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CLAYER BURGLES.

INGENUOUS ATTEMPT TO ENTER A TOBACCO SHOP.

New Year Eve a year ago a number of burglars forced an entrance into Messrs. Sayce and Company's tobacco store, in Beaconsfield Arcade, and got away with a good haul. Curious to remark, at the same time this year, on the other side of the street, on the morning of the 1st ult., when Mr. Sayce went to his business house to open up, he was surprised to see the large pot palm, which is usually placed against the wall, standing in front of the shop door. Quickly removing the obstruction, he examined the floor and at the bottom panel, on the right hand side, he saw a number of holes, ten were counted, which had been bored with an instrument. The door was opened and instead of finding the place in disorder, Mr. Sayce discovered that the robbers did not succeed in their mission.

That the scheme to break into the shop was a clever one can be understood, when it is mentioned that the palm was shifted in front of the door so as to conceal the person while he proceeded to remove the panel to admit himself and his colleagues. Their failure to complete the task shows that they were disturbed. The matter was reported to the police. But if the robbers intend only to annoy Mr. Sayce once a year, and that on New Year Eve, then vigilance is not required.

DRUG STORES ABLAZE.

TWO FIRMS AT WEST POINT AND EXTENSIVE LOSSES.

Great damage was done at a drug store, cleared last Saturday afternoon at Southview, West Point. The building, which is a two-story brick structure and was used as a godown, where expensive Chinese medicines were stored. It was about 5.45 o'clock that flames were seen issuing from the top floor and the news was promptly communicated to headquarters. The fire brigade (Chief Inspector Baker in charge) arrived on the scene when the premises were enveloped in smoke and flame, and after some hard work they succeeded in saving the building. It was discovered later that one bale of medicine was destroyed, while the remainder of the stock was damaged by fire and water.

The damage is estimated at \$17,000; and the drugs were insured for \$65,000 in the London and Lancashire Insurance Company's office. The origin of the fire was believed to have been caused by a coolie, who, having struck a lighted candle near a bale of medicine, left it, only to set fire to the bale.

DRUG DRYING CAUSES FIRE.

West Point's second fire occurred shortly before daybreak on Monday. The flames broke out at 105, Des Voeux Road, but fortunately the fire-fighters were on the spot immediately after the outbreak, and were able to tackle matters before they got serious.

105, Des Voeux Road West is a three-story-old brick building. The ground floor is occupied by a hardware merchant, the second floor is unoccupied, while the third and top floor was used as a dwelling house. The fire broke out on the top floor, caused, it was alleged, by the over-heating of some drugs. In the twinkling of an eye the whole floor was ablaze, and as we have already stated the brigade arrived in time to confine the flames to that floor.

The premises were insured in a Chinese company for \$1,300, and the damage is put down at \$500.

RATS AND PLAGUE.

THE CAMPAIGN IN SHANGHAI.

The N. C. D. News writes:—The campaign against rats in Shanghai has now begun in real earnest. Since the discovery of plague-infected rats in Hongkong a thorough and systematic examination of all rats found dead in the streets has been introduced, and for that purpose the fullest use has been made of the existing sanitary organization. The house refuse coolies, who, in their small districts, have hitherto been charged with the duty of reporting cases of infectious disease and deaths among the native population, are now valuable units in the discovery and localization of plague-infected rats. Equipped with small bamboo buckets—half-filled with a disinfectant—and a pair of chopsticks, to avoid touching the rats with their hands, these coolies collect all the dead rodents they can find, and take them to the garbage chutes. The rats are put into the buckets, where the disinfectant kills any vermin on their bodies. At the chutes the Health Inspectors attach labels, describing the locality in which the rats were found, before transmitting them to the Health Office for examination. In the Municipal Laboratory a not uncommon examination of the rats is made; the spleens being examined microscopically for plague bacillus. Thirteen hundred rats have, so far, been examined in this way, and forty-eight were found to be infected with plague. There are maps of every part of the Settlement on the walls of the Health Inspectors' room, and every time an infected rat is found a little red flag is pinned to the part of the plan that shows the locality from which it comes. In another room, plain glass pins mark the spot where every dead rat, plague-infected rat, has been found recently.

The Health Office staff, as well as native foremen and refuse coolies, are all being inoculated with Haffkine's prophylactic, the value of which has been proved in epidemics of plague in India. This prophylactic, which, in a greater or less degree protects the subject for several months, consists of a suspension of plague bacilli, heated to a temperature which is just sufficient to kill them. Inoculation has very slight after-effects. The arm into which the fluid is injected remains sore for a few days, and slight fever may be expected the first night, but compared with vaccination the discomfort is trifling. Large supplies of the prophylactic are being prepared in the laboratory, and should human plague make its appearance, the Health Office will be able to offer free inoculation to all Chinese who will submit to it.

Plague, with the exception of the pneumonic form, which is rare, is believed to be caused entirely by fleas, which convey it from rat to man. When a rodent dies, the vermin leave the corpse and seek sustenance on the first warm body they can find. Though the white rats may be less susceptible to the disease than the black rats, the comparative immunity they enjoy is due chiefly to cleaner habits, and better sanitation in their houses. The precautions, that foreigners can take, therefore, are limited to cleanliness, and the extermination of rats in their dwellings. The first step to take is to render houses, as far as possible, rat-proof. To this end ventilators near the ground should be inspected to see that there are no openings large enough to admit rats, and all rat-holes inside the house should be plastered up. Cats are invaluable allies in the campaign against rats. They are not as a rule susceptible to plague, and they are the rodents' natural foe. Where they are kept they should be given free access to the attic and, if possible, to the roof-rats, for it is in those parts of the house that rats usually congregate. Mice, which are factors in the dissemination of plague, should also be destroyed. The Health Department has now over 3,000 rat traps which are set daily by native rat-catchers, under the supervision of the Health Inspectors.

As has been already pointed out, rats are the chief, not the only, source of plague infection. Contraction of the disease from human cases is unlikely, if proper precautions are observed, and to doctors and nurses the risk of attending plague patients is far less than that incurred in connection with cases of scarlet fever. The only satisfactory method of exterminating rats is by catching them either in traps or with cats. Rat virus, which has recently been introduced at home, is at very little practical utility, as it is so deadly to the rat that it kills a small proportion of them.

RESULTS OF OPIMUM.

Rat Destruction.

A HUMANITARIAN APPEAL.

HON. MR. HEWETT'S PLEA FOR PLAGUE-INFECTED RODENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH,"
5th January, 1909.

Sir,—We have heard a great deal lately as to the necessity for destroying rats and mice with a view to decreasing the spread of bubonic plague and other ills and I presume we are all agreed as to the wisdom of this step.

The point to which I would desire to direct the attention of your readers, however, is the manner in which these animals are destroyed.

After luncheon to-day I met a servant with a cage containing a rat just captured. I asked how it was to be killed and he informed me that the custom was to put the rat into boiling water.

I appealed to one of the officials of the establishment and then learned that this was the customary manner of killing the rats.

Fortunately two of his superiors appeared on the scene at this moment and instructions were at once given that in future all rats and mice should be drowned in cold water.

No doubt all householders here are endeavoring to keep down the rats in their houses, but probably few know how these unfortunate creatures when captured are destroyed, and my experience of this afternoon appears to justify my bringing the matter before the public.

This usual custom among a certain class of servants is to amuse themselves by taking a kettle of boiling water, slowly pouring it over the wretched little animal while still in the cage, enjoying its agony as it runs from side to side endeavoring to escape the scalding liquid.

Another favorite form of killing rats is to soak them in kerosene oil and then set fire to them. I have personally obtained convictions here and elsewhere against servants (not my own I am glad to say) for killing rats by these methods.

I would now appeal to your readers to take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that any rats or mice caught on their premises be humanely destroyed.—Yours truly,
EDBERT A. HEWETT.

P. AND O. STEAM NAVIGATION.

SIR THOMAS SUTHERLAND ON BRITISH TRADE.

There was a large gathering of shareholders to hear Sir Thomas Sutherland's statement at the annual meeting of the Peninsular and Oriental Company on the 18th ult.

His tone was grave as he referred to the fact that the trade of the world was passing under a cloud, and that the great shipping industry had suffered accordingly. Great fleets of ships had been laid up in the various ports of the United Kingdom for some months past, and the state of affairs was emphasised when they remembered that there was a great amount of tonnage laid up in the East, particularly Bombay and Calcutta, it being found utterly impossible to procure home cargoes of any description whatever, or at any possible rates. The P. and O. Company had their full share of this depressing state of affairs, but he thought they had emerged as satisfactorily as could possibly be expected under the circumstances.

Sir Thomas went on to refer to the mail contract concluded with the Government in February last. The terms were more onerous than ever before, he said, and it was too early to say whether it would eventually turn out profitable to the company or not. Since they had patched up their quarrel with the German lines, they had obtained better revenue returns from India, but the homeward freights could only be described as "simply miserable." From a moral point of view he rejoiced at the decline in the opium traffic, but as a shipper he deplored it. (Laughter.) He urged the Government to watch this trade, as he believed that opium was as needful to the temperance of the Chinese as beer was to the English.

What was the prospect of trade in the future? asked Sir Thomas, in conclusion. He was of opinion that if there was a betterment it was very slight, but expressed the belief that an automatic improvement would continue.

KULANGSU (AMOI) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Council, held at the Board room, on the 15th December, 1908. Present: Messrs. W. H. Wallace (Chairman), J. S. Fenwick, Huang T'an-chow S. Okuyama, W. Wilson, the Health Officer and the Secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The list of persons qualified to vote at meetings of ratepayers, published annually, was read, approved and passed for publication.

It was decided to request Mr. D. M. McKie, and Mr. Huang T'an-chow, the Chinese member of the Council, to jointly inspect the new Municipal buildings, and decide what was a just and fair amount the contractor should receive as a final payment on account of his contract.

A letter was read from Mr. Lim Kai Seng complaining that his property at San-ku-chan had been over-assessed. He was to be informed that he could either refer the case to Revd. G. M. Wales, the gentleman nominated by the Chinese ratepayers as their representative on the Land Commission, or the Council would refer the case to the Land Commission as a whole. In the meantime, as his contention could not be taken as an excuse for not paying his taxes, he was to be requested to forward cheques for same without delay.

The tenders for 1909 night-soil contract were opened and considered. Subject to satisfactory reference being given, the tender of Kho Pok Seng for \$1,800 was accepted.

The Supt. of Police reported the Mixed Court still closed on account of official mourning.

(Signed) W. H. WALLACE,
Chairman.

By order,
O. BERKLEY MITCHELL,
Secretary.

A REPORT was made to the police on New Year Day, by a shopkeeper, that a large quantity of fungus, about 500 worth, had gone missing during the night. Detective Sergeant Appleton, after making the necessary inquiries, and ascertaining the numbers of the junks engaged by the shopkeeper to bring the cargo ashore, proceeded to search each junk. The first boat he searched was No. 632, and no sooner had he stepped on board than a woman ran to the side and threw a quantity of stuff overboard. She was placed under arrest at once, on a charge of throwing a quantity of fungus overboard to avoid seizure. On being charged in the Police Court, and pleading guilty, she was ordered to pay a fine of \$50, or to suffer two months in jail.

THE HONGKONG CHESS CLUB.

ANNUAL MEETING.

At the general meeting of the members of the Hongkong Chess Club, which was held at the office of Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., the President of the Club, on Wednesday, the 23rd December, 1908, at 5.15 p.m., the following members were present, namely, Mr. Pollock (President), Mr. M. J. Dusenberry (hon. treasurer), Mr. S. D. Seton, Mr. A. F. B. Silva Netto, Mr. R. A. Dastur, Mr. D. Carvalho, Mr. F. Carvalho, Mr. V. de Souza, Mr. P. A. Rozario, and Mr. J. X. Batalha.

During the period since the last general meeting the following matches have been played:—

1. Match: Mr. Pollock's team v. Mr. Dusenberry's team. Pick-up. Five a side. One game to decide. Thursday the 12th December, 1907, at 5.15 p.m. Mr. Pollock's team won by 5 to 3.

2. Exhibition of simultaneous play. By Mr. H. W. Landberg, on Thursday, the 10th December, 1907, at 5.15 p.m. Mr. Landberg won all the games but one.

3. Exhibition of blindfold play by Mr. H. W. Landberg, on Thursday, the 9th January, 1908, at 5.15 p.m. Three games were played and all of them were won by Mr. Landberg.

4. (a) Knock-out tournament for the championship of the Club.

1st Prize of value of \$15 to be presented by the Club. Won by Mr. Pollock.

2nd Prize to be bought with the entrance fees. Won by Mr. V. de Souza.

(b) Knock-out tournament for those who do not enter for championship.

1st Prize presented by Mr. S. D. Seton. Won by Mr. P. A. Rozario.

2nd Prize presented bought with the entrance fees. Won by Mr. D. Carvalho.

Mr. M. J. Dusenberry, the hon. treasurer, laid the accounts from November, 1907, till the date of the meeting upon the table, which showed that the Club was carrying forward a balance of \$320, against \$167.96 brought forward in November, 1907.

On the motion of Mr. Pollock, who took the chair, the accounts were passed.

The next matter which was brought up for discussion was the selection of a place of meeting and it was resolved that Mr. A. F. B. Silva Netto should approach the manager of the Astor House with a view to securing the use of a room for the Chess Club in the afternoon, 5.15 p.m. onwards, Mondays and Thursdays being specially selected for playing match games.

(Note.—An arrangement has since been arrived at with the manager of the Astor House upon the above lines, and consequently the Chess Club will meet at the Astor House till further notice.)

It was then proposed and carried that the following matches should be played during the ensuing season:—

(1) Match: Mr. Pollock's team v. Mr. Dusenberry's team. Pick-up. Five a side. One game to decide. Monday 4th January, 1909, at 5.15 p.m.

(2) Tournament for the championship of the Club. Two games to be played, all against all. The award of prizes to be determined by the aggregate number of marks scored after all the games have been played.

No score to count either for or against any player, unless he plays the full number of games. 1st prize, of value of \$15; to be presented by the Club. 2nd prize, a cup to be presented by Mr. S. D. Seton.

Entries for the championship to be sent in to Mr. P. A. Rozario, the hon. secretary, c/o Messrs. Meyer & Co., on or before Saturday the 9th January, 1909. Play to commence on Monday, the 11th January, 1909, and the tournament to be completed, if practicable, within two months.

(3) It was decided that, whilst the above tournament was proceeding, the Captain Chess Club should be approached with a view to seeing whether a match of two games could be arranged to be conducted by postcard, Canton playing white in one game and black in the other.

(4) It was decided that the Hongkong Young Men's Christian Association should also be approached with a view to a match being played against them about Thursday, the 25th February, 1909.

(5) It was also decided that, if possible, an international match be played between members of the British, German and Portuguese communities, with liberty to other nationalities to compete each team to play the other two teams, with seven players a side and each player playing two games against his opponent. The winning team to be the team which scores the highest aggregate number of marks.

A challenge shield will be presented by Mr. H. E. Pollock, to be won outright by the team which wins three games in succession.

The possibility of holding an inter-club match was then discussed, but it was resolved to let the matter stand over for the present.

The following committee were then elected:—
Mr. H. E. Pollock, president.
Mr. M. J. Dusenberry, hon. treasurer.
Mr. P. A. Rozario, hon. secretary.
Mr. S. D. Seton.
Mr. A. F. B. Silva Netto.

HIGH SCHOOL FOR CHINESE.

At a meeting in Berlin of the Executive Committee of the German Colonial Society held on December 9 under the presidency of Duke John Albert of Mecklenburg, Admiral von Treppe (Minister of Marine) announced that the Government intended to establish at Kiaochow a high school for Chinese, at a cost of 600,000 marks (£30,000) with a recurrent expenditure of 150,000 marks (£7,500) per annum.

The Minister stated that the view prevailed in China that a thorough reform of the school system was necessary preliminary to the modernisation of the State's methods of government. The Chinese Government has shown its sympathy with the project by expressing its readiness to support the new school both by a subsidy and by the provision of suitable scholars, and by admitting scholars from the German school to State examinations and to posts under the Chinese Government.

The German Government, Admiral von Treppe added, desired to create a commercial high school as a basis for technical and medical schools and institutes for political economy, forestry, and agriculture, to be founded later.

MUCH regret will be expressed at the news of the death of Captain J. D. G. Arthur, which took place at the Nursing Home on Saturday last, after a short illness, reports the *N. C. D. News*, of 28th ult. A Scotsman by birth, Capt. Arthur was formerly in the Australian service on the boats of the Eastern and Australian Co., and left his command there to become a Tynes Straits pilot. He was also for many years with Messrs. Butterfield and Swire and afterwards joined the association of the Lower Yangtze pilots. For the last eight or ten years he has been retained by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and has been singularly successful in his handling of the steamers of that Company. His genial and generous disposition won him many friends who will deeply sympathise with the family in the loss he has sustained.

SHANGHAI OPIUM CONFERENCE.

The Wai-wu-pu on Christmas Day appointed His Excellency Jui Chou, Provincial Treasurer at Soochow and formerly Tantai at Shanghai, and His Excellency Tai Nai-hung, present Tantai of Shanghai, to represent China at the Anti-Opium Conference to be opened in Shanghai on February 1, in addition to the three representatives already appointed.

On the occasion of the opening of the Conference, a high official from Peking will be sent as an additional mark of China's interest in the proceedings.

THE ANTI-OPIMUM CAMPAIGN.

The Prince Regent has consulted with the Grand Council on feasibility of issuing instructions to the Viceroy and Governors of the various provinces prohibiting the consumption of opium within two years. It is stated that the proposition was deemed by the Grand Council to be too sudden and that more time should be given to the people to start new enterprises and to get rid of the habit. It is probable that an edict will be issued this week prohibiting opium consumption by the end of the 31st day of Hsuen Tsung (1911).

Sir E. Grey, interrogated by Mr. Watt, (on the 3rd ult.) said he was not aware that any of the British representatives to the Opium Conference were in possession of strong views on the subject, but they would be guided by instructions from the Government, due regard being paid to the state of facts brought before the Conference.

PUBLICATION OF STRAITS REPORT.

The *Singapore Free Press* writes editorially:—The delay in the publication of the Straits Opium Commission Report was believed to be in deference to political purposes, especially to the hindering of Hongkong from obtaining any knowledge of the recommendations of the Commissioners, but we are glad to see, attracted notice at home. It may be presumed that the Colonial Office, on being consulted by Reuters, inspired that agency to declare that that belief in the Straits was unfounded. The point is that it exists very generally, and the official tone of the chairman, rather if anything, tends to accentuate it.

The Singapore theory has at any rate seemed so plausible to the public in London, which is not inclined to take the opium agitation at its own face value, that it is telegraphed to Hongkong that opinion in London endorses the Singapore hypothesis, namely, that Hongkong being kept in ignorance of the Straits Report—this probably not in accordance with the views that were as nearly as possible dictated to the Commission in the reference that was to guide its investigations.

It will be possible to deal with these Crown Colonies *en masse* without either of them being permitted access to the Straits Report.

THE HONGKONG PRESS.

are waking up to the danger, but from what we have read that danger is not yet fully apprehended. The delay in action on the part of the Secretary of State, so distasteful to the agitation mongers, may be, and likely is simply the result of the dread of the scandal that would ensue if any action were precipitated before the publication of the proceedings of the international Conference at Shanghai. But we cannot too emphatically insist that the slight delay in hostile action against the Crown Colony revenues, is no nothing compared with the danger underlying the inexcusable suppression of a Report, that could be issued here-to-morrow for at least limited local consumption at an hour's notice. As regards publication, in its technical sense, it would be quite sufficient to meet the requirements, if a copy were issued here to each member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, to the press of the Colony and of the Federated Malay States, and to the Resident General and British Residents of the Malay States. A copy should also be handed to the Secretary of the Singapore Branch of the Straits Settlements Association, and for the information of each member of the International Shanghai Conference the requisite number of copies should be handed to the chief British member, Sir Cecil Smith, on his passing through Singapore for Shanghai. In addition to that several copies should be placed at the disposal of the Hongkong Government, the Registrar-General at Hongkong and the Hongkong press. Until that is done we shall take leave to draw our own conclusions as to the motives of the Colonial Office in its wanton suppression of a report, whose conclusions have a direct bearing upon the fate of the revenue of this Colony. If we were to conceive a complete reversal of the conditions, and imagine that the Governor-in-Council here in the Straits Settlements had it in his power to determine a policy that would affect the revenue of the United Kingdom by half, say a matter of £75,000,000, and were to suppress for an indefinite time essential information, would there not be a howl from the Home Government and the British public? This of course is a mere *reductio ad absurdum*. But at the same time it is a very exact picture of the relative injury done to this Colony by a malevolent prolongation of an entirely gratuitous state of suspense. The Hongkong papers derive some comfort from the delay in action. We think that temporary reprieve is utterly insignificant when put beside the ominous fact of the deliberate suppression of the Straits Report. That shows that the Colonial Office and the Home Government still remain the servile accomplices of—

A DISCREDITED AGITATION.

which they dread simply on account of its power of appeal to public Pharisaism, which is just as strong now as it was ninety hundred years ago. The avidity with which exaggeration is resorted to, and the ability to suppress truth and to make the most of the truth, are the signs of a man who is not to be trusted. The suppression of the Straits Report is a case in point. The suppression of the Straits Report is a case in point.

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manding fact is that China is the principal opium producing country in the world, and that if it can only acquire a monopoly of that production by the denial of entrance to the foreign-grown commodity, the Chinese provincial government will possess, if they choose, a very powerful agency for the raising of revenue. Those who know the Chinese official character best will be able to say whether all this power of raising revenue will be abandoned with alacrity just to please the whim of the "Foreign Devil" Government.

FARE FROM MANILA.

REDUCTION BY INDO-CHINA S.N. CO.

Messrs. Smith, Bell and Company, the Manila agents for the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, announce that the saloon passage on the *Yuenyang* and *Hongkong* (7) of that Company, have been reduced from P40 to P30. Both these vessels are safe and comfortable steamers and the new rate will undoubtedly meet with favour by the travelling public. The cheap rate went into effect with the *Yuenyang*, sailing 31st ult. and the next vessel of the line to leave for the neighboring port will be the *Loonyang*, sailing on Friday, January 8, at four o'clock p.m.

TRAGIC INTERVIEW.

SHIP'S OFFICER SHOT IN SAIGON HOTEL.

ASSASSIN SURRENDERS TO THE POLICE.

Saigon papers bring news of a tragedy which occurred at the Marine Hotel at Saigon, on December 17, M. Bereste, second officer of the steamer *Dona*, being shot fatally. It appears that M. Bereste went to interview a lady staying at the hotel for whom he said he had commissions from her husband who is now in Siam. There had been a conversation for long before an individual entered the room in which they were conversing. Shots were heard and a man, known by the name of Surcom, was seen leaving the place. This man said that Bereste had tried to strike him, and then left the hotel. M. Bereste afterwards appeared; he was terribly wounded and sank to the floor lifeless. Mme. de Roqueville also appeared later covered with blood and scarcely able to stand. The victims were placed in a sick-chamber and taken to the hospital where it was found that Mme. de Roqueville had been seriously wounded in the left breast and the palm of the hand. M. Bereste had received two revolver wounds which had killed him almost at once.

The assassin surrendered himself to the authorities to whom he made a statement to the effect that his two victims owed him money and had refused to pay. According to *L'Opinion*, M. Bereste was an extremely popular officer; and it is hoped that Mme. de Roqueville will make a speedy recovery.—*Singapore Times*.

CHUNG-SHA-WAN CEMETERY.

BURIAL OF DEAD PLAGUE BODIES.

In connection with the labor and material for the plague cemetery at Chung-sha-wan for the year 1908, it was agreed at the meeting of the Sanitary Board held on the 14th September last that this contract be re-entered into and that the use of Chung-sha-wan as a special plague cemetery be given up.

The Medical Officer of Health minutes:—The bodies left to the Department for burial should, I think, be buried at Kai-lung-wan and Ma-tau-wai cemeteries. If this is decided on, it will be necessary to prepare sites for such burials. During the height of the plague season, it may be necessary to have trenches dug instead of individual graves. This was done at Chung-sha-wan by a contractor.

SUBSTITUTE FOR OPIUM.

MORE POWERFUL EFFECT PRODUCED BY MORPHIA.

Monthon Puket is, we believe, not the only district in the Malay Peninsula where a tendency has been noted among the Chinese to give up opium smoking for the more dangerous form of intoxication produced by injections of morphia. Siam is fact only following the Straits in taking energetic measures to make the use of such drugs illegal, except in cases where they are prescribed by a doctor.

It has often been argued, continues the *Bangkok Times*, that the well meant efforts to do away with opium-smoking are of doubtful wisdom, if only because something else will take the place of opium and that something else may very well have even more deleterious effects. The reality of this danger is shown by the fact that, before anything has been done to stop the use of opium, smokers in the Federated Malay States and now in the Siamese part of the Peninsula, have found out themselves the more powerful effects that can be produced by morphia. The pleasant effects of the drug are admitted in the Siamese proclamation, which states that it makes the heart "sabal," and that it is taken as a means to secure happiness (kham suk). The frightful effects produced ultimately are, however, only too evident in Puket, according to the report made by the authorities there, and in view of the temptation to buy bribe happiness at too great a price, the only remedy that a Government can safely apply is prohibition.

China is making some efforts to exclude morphia, but it is believed to be smuggled into the country in considerable quantities. Possibly the Opium Commission will help to secure ultimate action by the Powers to protect the Far East from such dangerous drugs. Opium smoking presents a sufficiently difficult problem in itself without this additional evil.

COMPLAINT AGAINST A CONTRACTOR.

MR. SHELTON HOOPER'S MINUTE.

At the meeting of the Sanitary Board last Tuesday, it was decided, in the public interest, to make public the proceedings of the confidential meeting, which was held on the 22nd ultimo, in connection with complaints received against the scavenging and conservancy contractor of Kowloon.

The following motion was submitted by Mr. A. Shelton Hooper and seconded by Mr. J. D. G. Arthur, and was carried by a large majority. That the contractor be fined \$100 and be told that his carrying out of his contract would be carefully watched till the end of the year and that he would be fined \$5 for each breach of the provisions of his contract.

Mr. Lau Chu Pak seconded.

A MEETING of Germans, interested in the establishment of an elementary school for young German children at Tientsin, was held at the German Municipal Council office, there, being present Consul Kaempfer, in the chair, and Messrs. Schell, Wolke, Kreier, Rode, Boucher and Grunewald, when it was agreed to start the school in the summer of 1909, and to premises for the present. The curriculum had been drawn up already by the head-master on the lines of similar schools in Germany.

AMERICA AND JAPAN.

TRADE COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

The Chamber of Commerce, has received from the honorary commercial commissioners representing the Chambers of Commerce of the Pacific coast, who completed the formal itinerary of their visit in Japan November 4, an extended preliminary report of the reception given by the Japanese people to their guests. The report, drawn up and sent by four commissioners returning to the United States on the steamer *Montpelier*, was addressed to such of the chambers represented, and was dated by Mr. E. F. Blaise, who, with H. W. Treat and J. D. Lowman, were the delegates from the Seattle Chamber of Commerce. The report says in part:—

"It would be absurd and wrong, after the manifestation of affection which was accorded us by the Japanese people, to question the sincerity of their friendship. Every member of the commission realized that it was not the commissioners whom the Japanese sought to compliment, but that through them they were seeking to reach the hearts of the people of the United States.

"Before visiting the empire of Japan none of us had the slightest conception of the sentiments which the people of that country bear to the people of the United States. Commodore Perry's memory is as much revered as that of almost any patriot who has ever died for Japan. The people of that empire feel that the United States has dealt fairly with them and has given them advice which was not in any way tinged by selfish interest.

"They declare that the moral support of the American people and our sympathy during the war with Russia assured them that they would be successful. They constantly applied to the friendship manifested by our country when President Roosevelt suggested that hostilities between Japan and Russia should cease and an honorable peace be concluded.

"Bearing in mind that only fifty-five years ago Japan was a hermit nation, and that to-day she is a world power, realizing to what extent they have developed their natural resources, and, through their emperor, changed their form of government, established educational institutions, and performed a work more gigantic than has before been undertaken by any other people, we deem any such criticism at this time improper.

"ALIVE TO DEVELOPMENT.

"There is no mistaking the onward and upward trend of commerce, manufacturing and education in Japan. She has within her the elements of a very high civilization, and her people are not blind to these facts.

"The commerce of Japan has had a rapidity of growth unequalled by any other modern nation. The Japanese build, man and navigate their own ships, and they have built ships which seem equal to the best that ply the Pacific ocean.

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"The commerce of Japan has had a rapidity of growth unequalled by any other modern nation. The Japanese build, man and navigate their own ships, and they have built ships which seem equal to the best that ply the Pacific ocean.

"Many of their manufacturing plants are on a large scale, and are in conformity with the latest models of either Germany, England or the United States. In one of the cotton-spinning factories which we visited the sanitary arrangements were nearly perfect. There was a school for the education of some of the employees and the children of the employer, a theatre, tea house, hospital, boarding house, sleeping apartments, and such employees as were furnished food were given it at less than one-half of its actual cost. We were advised that there were many other manufacturing institutions adopting like measures for the comfort and benefit of their employees.

"While we found the wages paid in the factories small as compared with wages in America, they were sufficient to enable the employees to accumulate savings, as the cost of living in Japan is extremely low.

"PLenty OF WATER POWER.

The "Fatshan" Incident.

ROWDIES' ATTEMPT TO BOYCOTT STEAMER.

BRITISH CONSUL'S PROMPT ACTION.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 2nd January.

Yesterday morning, placards bearing the names of *Fok Wing Fuk* and *Pak Yu Shi* were found posted in various public places throughout the city, by which public feeling was greatly aroused. The people were warned not to patronise any more the steamer *Fatshan* and to boycott her immediately. The *Fatshan* was of course scheduled to leave here at 5 p.m. in the afternoon on her usual trip, and expected to carry as usual a number of passengers and cargo; but as the result of the impression given in the placards, the appearance of the steamer lying at her wharf seemed to have become an object attracting the people in large numbers, especially the lower classes, to gather around in the vicinity of her wharf. No doubt some of the intending passengers disregarded what the placards said, and others were entirely ignorant of them. When coming down the wharf to board the steamer, some of the passengers had their luggage snatched by certain mischievous makers who were working partly for their own benefit and partly on the pretext of giving warning to the passengers. After a few incidents of this nature had taken place, great excitement prevailed among the people, and matters became disorderly. Crowds of people then collected and caused great confusion; some of them threatened to burn the steamer and others to stop off the ears of anyone who should attempt to board her. At about 10 o'clock, there were already on board the steamer over a hundred passengers; all of a sudden, some of the rowdies got among the passengers and intimidated that they should go up and fall in line with the boycott movement. As things looked ugly, the *Fatshan* had to leave her wharf and moored out of the harbour opposite Shamshui. In order to prevent the rowdies from coming on board, the steamer began running to and fro to leave the vessel and not one was found remaining on board; the cargo, that was already loaded by the Chinese merchants, was also taken out before her departure. When things were getting serious, the British Consul-General at once telephoned to the Viceroy informing him of what had happened and asked him to immediately send troops to guard the steamer against any emergency. On hearing of the occurrence, the Viceroy without delay ordered the Tatal of Constabulary, the Tatal for the Development of Native Industries, the two Brigadiers-General, and the two District Magistrates of Nanhai and Panyu and the Shamshui Guard to proceed to the scene to restore order. At a little past 4 o'clock the above officials were present at the wharf with soldiers and policemen up to the number of a few hundred, and on their arrival the mob was gradually dispersed and everything resumed their former tranquillity. The officials remained on the spot till 5 o'clock, and then the *Fatshan* returned to her wharf once more to receive the mail packets and left for Hongkong without further incident. This morning, the Tatal of Constabulary issued a proclamation with orders to effect the arrest of the ringleaders and to suppress the boycott. It is an unfortunate circumstance that the result of the *Fatshan* incident should have reached the present state.

Yesterday morning, Admiral Li Chun left here with the *Kowloon* and two other gunboats for the West River to make an inspection. A fear was still cherished with regard to the safety of the steamer *Fatshan*; the Brigadier-General of Kwangchow was again detailed by the Viceroy to proceed to her wharf with no less than a hundred soldiers to protect the vessel on her arrival here to-day at 4 p.m.

PORTUGUESE CONSUL AND VICEROY CHANG.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST SELF-GOVERNMENT SOCIETY.

The *Sheng Po*, of 31st ult., publishes extracts of two communications, which have been exchanged between the Portuguese Consul at Canton and Viceroy Chang Jen-chun, relating to the *Fatshan* incident. We give below free translations of the two documents. The Portuguese Consul wrote to the Viceroy as follows:

"I find that deaths often occur on Hong steamers running between Canton and Hongkong, because of the use of steamers and return to their native country, and when they die their report will be made to the *Keong Lin* Hospital which will attend to their burial. It is to be feared that the present instance is one of the cases of that nature. It was simply because a boy of 15 conceived the idea of making a false accusation against Noronha (the watchman) for kicking a passenger to death and he passed round to the passengers what he had conceived in his mind. The captain at once removed the boy and mentioned him to the Viceroy. The accused had no statement. He was exceedingly surprised if anyone saw with his own eyes the watchman kick the passenger to death; but no one gave any reply. It is clear that of the witnesses examined by the British Consul-General not a single one was an eye-witness.

The false accusation was only made by this boy of fifteen, and the moment he arrived in Canton he bolted, and there was no means of ascertaining from him how he saw the thing done. Therefore, there is no other evidence upon which the boy was charged, apart from the false accusation of this boy. False accusation is just like oil on a coal; it spreads all at once. Therefore, those who pretend patriotism to their country say that they saw, with their own eyes, and in conjunction with the unlawful Self-Government Society look upon this matter, in which an offence had been committed and which is a matter of ordinary occurrence, as if it were a matter of the greatest moment, with the result that the people in Canton bear hatred against foreigners. The Chinese mind is very easily excited. The boy had been employed by Messrs. Butterfield and Swire for upwards of fifteen years and also discharged his duties well. He could not help having enemies to bring charges against him. As a matter of fact, however, he never once did anything wrong, and was never once charged by anybody. Being a Portuguese subject he should come under the jurisdiction of his Consul, but as the British Consul received your communication calling for an inquiry and as the British Consul has fixed a date for the hearing, the prosecution is not particularly clear that they were bribed or bought by the Self-Government Society, or privately coached as to what to say. The evidence for the prosecution, clearly, is a tissue of falsehoods and the evidence given by those on the boat, the member who collected the tickets in company with Noronha, show up more clearly the false evidence given by the prosecution.

However, let us put aside the false evidence and deal only with the point of examination. The examination was twice held by an English doctor at the time, the same doctor that you engaged to hold the examination. If you have any doubt in the English doctor, why should you send him again to hold another examination? You should accept the doctor's certificate without the slightest hesitation. Moreover, there is no other scientific doctor who has argued against the way in which he had conducted the examination. According to the doctor's certificate it is clear that the Chinaman who died on board, the *Fatshan* died of natural causes, and that there was no mark of violence. These matters should end.

If you wish me to hold another trial it will be necessary to procure truthful witnesses, who shall be examined by me, and if the accused is really guilty I will then fix a date for holding a proper trial in Court. However, at the examination in the first instance which is not a Mixed Court inquiry, the local officials are not required to attend; the reporters of the Press and witnesses cannot come and listen. Since the matter is one concerning the life of a Chinese subject and as it is desired to prevent the public from making a pretext to hold discussions you may send an official of Tatal rank who understands French to come and listen, and it will be so much the better if he can understand English as well. During the inquiry, however, the deputy can only take down the evidence; he has no right to examine witnesses; only I myself have the power of a judge in examining the witnesses. I should like you to deal with the parties concerned severely. If the Press should discuss the matter in such a way as to incite the people, or use language offensive to me, they should also be punished. If you comply with the conditions enumerated above, I shall thank you to send an early reply.

THE VICEROY'S REPLY.

Following is a translation of an extract of the Viceroy's reply:

With regard to the various points raised by you, it appears that you have prejudged the case before you have had a Mixed Court trial. In every respect, you try to exaggerate the accusation which is unreasonable. I find that Noronha is not the only ticket collector on board the *Fatshan*, and the name of the person who was accused, of kicking a passenger to death was not given. How is it that Noronha surrendered himself? During the inquiry at the British Consulate, the evidence given by witnesses was very clear, and the accused did not say a word in defence, which can be construed as an admission of his guilt. There were discrepancies in the evidence of the Chief Officer and members of the crew. With regard to the post-mortem examination held by a foreign doctor, the Chinese officials cannot accept that. I find in the fourth year of Tung Chi, an Englishman shot and wounded a Chinaman in 'Ankwo' Again, in the eighth year of Tung Chi an Englishman shot and killed a Chinaman. Both cases were decided according to the examination held by the Hongkong district magistrate and Shanghai magistrate. In this case, a Portuguese kicked a Chinaman to death, and the body was found with marks of violence. Therefore in accordance with the procedure already established in those two cases, the examination held by the district magistrate should be accepted as proof. As to how the accused should be tried for his offence Article 11 of the Treaty ought to be adhered to whereby Chinese officials should, in conjunction with the Consul, hold an inquiry and see justice done. The two words 'U Tung' combined, have been embodied in the Treaty, it will be necessary for the officials of the two countries to sit together and hear the case. Both have the power of examining the witnesses for the prosecution and for the defence. Moreover, in deciding the case, the decision should be a joint one. It is only proper that people should be allowed to come to the Court and listen to the proceedings so that the public should be afforded an opportunity of discussing matters thereon. You pointed out the witnesses for the prosecution as having been bribed or bought, who are the persons that gave the bribes, and who are the persons that received the bribes? Is there any proof? This should also be inquired into. It will not do to make a false allegation. With regard to the Press, they have the liberty to publish what they hear. Any comments about the case when *sub judice* I have altogether prohibited by my proclamation. This is a side issue and no reference should be made therein. What you ought to do is to be unbiased and just; none should be prejudged by public criticism.

LETTER BY NATIVE PRESS SOCIETY.

THREATENED PROTEST AGAINST PORTUGUESE CONSUL.

Canton, 7th January.

This morning, the native paper *Kwok See Po* published a letter which was addressed to the Portuguese Consul at Canton by the Native Press Society, asking him to reply to the following three days, giving satisfactory explanations to his complaint against the native papers in their report regarding the *Fatshan* case. It is stated in the letter that should the Consul fail to give a reply within the limited time, the Press Society will take steps to protest against him.

COLLISION NEAR CHINKIANG.

RIVER STEAMERS DAMAGED.

On Tuesday afternoon, as reported in our special Shanghai telegram, a collision between the *Ningpo* Kien Kaisha steamer *Tachang Maru* and the Chinese steamer *Singla*, took place in Silver Island Pass, near Chinkiang, as a result of which both vessels were damaged and had to be beached. The *Tachang Maru* was bound up river from Shanghai and was overtaken by the *Singla* in Silver Island Pass, and a collision occurred, the *Singla* striking her on the starboard side just below the water line. The *Tachang Maru* began to take in water and the pumps were set going; but despite this, the Captain had decided to beach his vessel and did so near Golden Island. The *Singla* sustained considerable damage about the bows and was also beached. Operations to free the *Tachang Maru* of water were continued and it was then found that the damage was not so great as was first surmised. The cargo, which was stored in the lower decks, escaped damage entirely, as only the lower holds were filled with water. Fortunately none of the passengers were injured by the collision, all being safely landed. The *Singla* did not fare so well, as a portion of her cargo was damaged. The Chinese steamer *Kiangching* is also beached, but this was done by her captain in order to avoid a collision with the two vessels above mentioned. As far as we can ascertain no great damage has been sustained by the *Kiangching*, and as soon as she is floated she will continue her voyage.

The *Tachang Maru* was expected to arrive at Shanghai on 5th inst. in tow of the *Tachang Maru*, and she will be docked for overhaul and repairs. The *Singla* will, we understand, need temporary repairs before she can come down the river.

Spitting Nuisance.

MINUTE BY H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

CONCILIATORY SUGGESTIONS.

The following letter was received from the Colonial Secretary forwarding a minute by H.E. the Governor relative to the examination of the Sanitary Board last Tuesday afternoon:

Colonial Secretary's Office,
28th December, 1900.

Sir, With reference to your letter No. 9773/07 of the 28th last, I am directed to transmit for the information of the Board the enclosed copy of a minute by His Excellency the Governor dated the 21st inst.

F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary, Sanitary Board.

[Enclosure.]

Colonial Secretary.—There is no reason why

step should not be taken without further delay

in the matter of the spitting nuisance.

(a) I think it must be suggested to the

occupants of flats, etc., that they should provide

spitons in the hall, passages and stairways.

They should be of metal and either fixtures

containing sand, or chained to a fixture so

as not to be stolen. Government offices, Post

Office, etc., should be so provided at once.

(b) The Registrar-General should instruct

the lecturers on hygiene and sanitation to point

out the danger to health caused by pulverised

oral and pectoral excreta being inhaled, and

how it has been conclusively proved that

pulmonary diseases are thus propagated, and

that meat and other eatables exposed for sale

are also thus infected. That the object aimed

at is that expectorators should use the drains

and gutters and not the pavements.

(c) Notices should be posted. They should

(at least at any rate) be worded in a conciliatory

way. Something like the following: "Please

do not spit" (or eject matter from the nose), on

the pavement, but when in a house use the

spitons provided, and when in the street, use

the drains or side gutters. The habit of spitting

where the matter is not speedily removed has

been proved to cause diseases of the lungs,

which are so prevalent in Hongkong.

(Id.), F. D. L.

21.12.08.

Mr. A. Shelton Hooper minutes:—I quite

agree with the minute of H.E. the Governor,

which embodies the suggestions made at the

meeting of the Sanitary Board on the 10th

November last. Effect should be given to it

at once.

Mr. Lau Chai Puk:—I have no objection to

the notices advising people not to spit in public

places, but I am in favour of any legislation

in the matter.

JUDICIAL POLICE ORDERS.

In connection with an amendment to the

Minor Offences Ordinance which forbids

spitting in public places, and so forth, instructions

have been issued to the Police, says the

Penny Gazette, inhibiting wholesale arrests

for breaches of this offence. Except under

exceptional circumstances, the procedure is

to be by summons, but the Assistant

Superintendents of Police are not to grant

permission for such summons to be issued

until they have made inquiry and ascertained

that the case is of a sufficiently aggravated

nature to warrant punishment. Only Euro-

pean members of the Police force will as a rule

be allowed to make arrests for this offence.

STRAITS CHINESE PETITION GOVERNMENT.

Says the *Taiyang* correspondent of the *Straits*

Echo:—

The Chinese community of the Colony have

made a successful move on behalf of their com-

plaints outside its limits, who might arrive

there and who might naturally be unacquainted

with the manner in which the petitioning

which has recently become law. In reply to

petition, addressed by the Headmen to "H.E.

the Governor, they have been informed that

an action will be taken against a person

for spitting until he had been two days

in the Colony, and no arrest is to be

made under the Ordinance, except by a

European Police Officer, and a summons

will only be taken out in cases reported

by the native police after inquiry by a

European Inspector or N. C. O. The very

necessity for the petitioning, this ordinance and

protective ordinance would seem to indicate that

this last piece of paternal legislation is likely

to cause more generally harm than any

specific good from a sanitary point of view.

Among the two large sections of the commu-

nity, the Chinese and Klings, spitting is a habit

which almost amounts to a second nature with

the former. With regard to the latter, adduced

as they are to chewing betel, the practice is a

necessity. Under these conditions the enforce-

ment of the Ordinance is calculated to operate

on them hardly, especially in the case of

the Chinese, who are used to chewing betel, and

in a month, as forbidden from even swal-

lowing their own saliva between sunrise and

sunset.

AN ALLEGED LIBEL.

ORDER FOR INTERIM INJUNCTION GRANTED.

In the Supreme Court, this morning, the

Chief Justice (Sir Francis Pigott) presiding,

Sir Henry Birtley, K.C., instructed by Mr.

O. D. Thomson, moved, on behalf of Chan

Kung Yui and Chan Yu Shi for the granting

of an interim injunction pending an action for

alleged libel to restrain Lam Kok Sang, his

agents or servants from printing, publishing or

selling a book all *Chan Fong Pa*.

Sir Henry Birtley stated that Mr. Chan

Kung Yui was a married man. The cause for

the motion to grant the order was a

certain publication in the *Cylynn* which pub-

lished the names, accomplishments, etc., of

Chinese women of doubtful character. The

book, Counsel stated, further contained

portraits of the persons mentioned in the let-

ters. A portrait of the plaintiff's wife was to

be found among one of these. A more ter-

rible or grosser libel, Sir Henry emphatically

declared, it would be impossible to conceive

than putting the woman in such an almshouse

as an inmate of the prostitutes of the Colony.

Counsel was aware of the fact that the *Cylynn*

would only grant injunctions in cases of libel

where the injury was serious, but then, Sir

Henry argued, nothing could be more serious

than the allegation against the publisher of

the book in question.

After the husband's affidavit was read and

further particulars submitted to the Court, the

order was granted.

THE HON. TREASURER OF THE ALICE MEMORIAL

AND ASSOCIATED HOSPITALS begs to acknowledge

with thanks the following donations to the funds of

the Hospital:

V. ALLEN (for 1900) £100 0 0

Opium Suppression.

"A CLAP OF THUNDER AND A HIGH WIND."

POPPY CULTIVATION IN KANSU AND KIANHSI.

The following is a translation of a memorial

presented by Tai Pa, Tatar General of Ning-

hsia, on the subject of the suppression of opium.

"A significant document appeared in the

Official Gazette dated 17, 1900.

We have received repeated instructions

that if we do not exert ourselves in the matter

of the suppression of opium we cannot

wash away the country's shame, increase

the nation's power, or guard against future

calamity. The consequences involved are great

and this cannot be carried on in the usual

way of conducting official business, i.e., "com-

plying in the light and obeying in the dark!"

We formerly received the dispatch of the Com-

missioner for the suppression of opium, ordering

us within two months to send a list of the

officers and soldiers in the Tatar city of Ning-

hsia who were addicted to the use of opium.

Now the opium smokers in the Tatar Garrison

are very many, more than fifty or sixty per cent.

We ask for an extension of the time so that

after making a strict investigation of the matter

a list of those who truly cannot break off the

opium habit may be sent in.

"We wish to act honestly without pretence.

In this matter of prohibiting opium and getting

rid of the opium craving, a suitable remedy

is not provided by which the disease may be

curled, they will only regard the order to break

off opium as "a clap of thunder and a high

wind" and the opium smokers will merely

band together to hoodwink their superiors. If

this is simply to depend on the eyes and ears

of one or two men, there can be no proper

investigation, as to whether opium-taking has

been suppressed or not.

"The gradual suppression of the growth of</

DARING ARMED ROBBERY.

CLEVER CAPTURE BY THE POLICE.

On Hogmanay night, when other people were enjoying themselves in a manner which befitted the season of the year, six individuals paid a visit to an opium den at 235, Queen's Road Central. They called for a smoke and had a smoke and remained until the last guest had left the premises.

It was before midnight that the master of the den asked them to leave, as it was closing time. They made several excuses, and, taking the owner unaware, they attacked him, threw him to the floor, gagged and bound him. Of course, his five *jakis* went to his rescue, and quickly they were treated likewise. At this time the robbers had produced daggers, with which they threatened to slay the first man who gave the alarm. Somehow or other one of the *jakis* managed to get out of the building, and raised the alarm. Some body on the floor above blew a police-whistle, which brought a *likong* to the scene. At that moment the robbers left the building—one of whom was seized by the policeman. Another robber came up, and, armed with a dagger, he threatened the officer. Being unable to arrest two, especially when one was armed with a dangerous weapon, the *likong* hung on to his man and allowed the other to escape.

By this time headquarters were informed of the trouble, and Chief Detective Inspector Hanton and Detective Sergeant Appleton and a party of officers proceeded to the scene, and surrounded a house in Second Street. Detective Appleton was sent up to the roof of the adjoining house, and there he met three men peeping through the hole in the sky-light—the very house which the policeman had raided. He pounced on them, but only succeeded in capturing two, while the other slipped down a trap door—into the hands, so to speak, of the officer below.

In all four men were arrested, not without a struggle, which was subdued in very little time. They were removed to the Central Police Station, this morning, were arraigned before Mr. J. R. Wood, charged with armed robbery.

They were:—Lam Chun (23), a coolie, of Shing Wong Street, Chai Wai Sik (18) of 41 Wing Street, Chan Shing (21) a silversmith, 52, Second Street, and Tong Wa (19) a ricksha coolie, 19, Peel Street.

A piece of the guilty was entered and the accused were remanded.

It is pleasing to remark that such a smart capture had been effected, and great praise is due to Mr. Hanton and Mr. Appleton for what they had done. Of the \$47.75 which had been removed from the till no less than \$12.77 were recovered.

THE INTERNATIONAL OPIUM COMMISSION.

INTERVIEW WITH AN AMERICAN DELEGATE.

Dr. Hamilton Wright, one of the American Delegates, arrived in Shanghai on Sunday and is staying at the Palace Hotel. Dr. Hamilton Wright, in an interview with a representative of the *N. C. Daily News*, on the 4th inst., stated that the Commission had been called together at the instance of the Hon. Elihu Root, Secretary of State. America had her own opium problem in the Philippines and elsewhere, and the State Department found that there was a great deal of dispute as to the evils connected with the consumption or smoking of opium. Mr. Root, therefore, considered it vital, the time was ripe for summoning the Commission, representing the various Governments interested in the opium problem, to study the question from every side. It was considered advisable that the Commission should be an international body, rather than that a report should be prepared by delegates of an interested Power. The Chinese Government has been making strenuous efforts to control its opium evil, and therefore it, and the other Powers having territorial possessions in the Far East, were invited to appoint Commissioners. Invitations were first issued to Great Britain, China, Japan, Germany, Holland, Portugal and France, and when the U.S. Government found that they were readily responded to, it was decided to make the Commission wider in its scope, and accordingly Russia, Turkey, Persia and Siam were also invited to send delegates. The other great Powers, such as Italy, Austria and Spain were not approached because they had neither territorial possessions in the Far East, nor any opium problem to cope with elsewhere. At the solicitation of the U.S. State Department the various Governments concerned appointed their Commissioners as early as possible, so that they could make a thorough study of the opium question in their respective spheres. Thus, they will be in a position, on the assembling of the Commission, to lay reports concerning the opium question, as it affects their possessions, on the table, and the Commission, instead of being called upon to receive voluminous evidence, will be in a position to grapple with the various problems that present themselves, immediately.

The Commission have been asked either to work for a joint international report, signed by all the delegates, or, if that is found impracticable, to make reports on the subject discussed by the Commission to their respective Governments. It is hoped that the original idea of a joint international report will result from the deliberations of the Commission.

Dr. Hamilton Wright authorized our contemporary representative to state that the American Commission represents the United States and its territorial possessions and such as portion, such as Hawaii, can send delegates with any official standing as a Commissioner.

The American Commissioners have made a thorough study of the opium problem in so far as it affects America and American possessions. Briefly, stated, the object of the Conference will be to decide the extent of the opium evil, and then to recommend measures for controlling it. It has no power to make any agreements—they must be the subject of subsequent negotiations between the Powers concerned. Finally, Dr. Hamilton Wright laid great stress upon the fact that the delegates have been appointed to a Commission—not a Conference—and that their work will be to study the question in its various aspects, and then to make such recommendation as they may think fit.

We are requested by the Rev. Father G. M. Spada to state that next week, the Catholic Bishops of South China—the Rt. Rev. F. Maout of Poochow, J. Clemente of Amoy, J. Lavest of Kwangsi, J. Merel of Canton and J. D. Fossol of Hongkong—will meet at the Mission House, Caine Road, to hold a synod to discuss matters pertinent to the administration of their missions. Monsignor Lavest, being indisposed, will be represented by his delegate the Very Rev. Father G. L. Herard. The formal opening of the synod will take place on Sunday next at 8 o'clock, when a solemn Pontifical Mass will be celebrated at the Catholic Cathedral by one of the Bishops with the assistance of all the other dignitaries and the clergy, to which function all Catholics are invited to attend.

BOULGIVANISM.

SERIOUS CRIME IN THE COLONY.

This is the time of the year when the boogymen of the city are making preparations to feather their nests in the best possible manner—whether honestly or otherwise. While on her way to church, a Portuguese lady, while on her way to church, who snatched a brooch from a fourteen-year-old girl, her blouse. The young thief made tracks, by way of Conduit Road, to escape the arm of the law, but several gentlemen who had witnessed the outrage, set out in pursuit, and succeeded in capturing the scamp, after a long run.

Of Chinese women no less than five were victimized yesterday, and in each case articles were stolen. Thanks to the vigilance of the police a capture in each case effected.

But the most daring of all was the robbery which was perpetrated at Wanchai. A number of men met a woman in Queen's Road East, and, stating that they were strangers to the Colony, asked her if she knew of a house to let. The foolish creature said she did and took them to an unoccupied house in Wanchai Road, which they inspected. While the woman was waiting for some remuneration, she was seized from behind, floor and gagged. The desperadoes then ran off, leaving her in a state of panic. One of them, however, was captured, and he was brought before the magistrate (Mr. J. H. Kemp) this morning, charged with robbery with violence. A plea of not-guilty was entered, and he was remanded.

The suspects in the other cases were found guilty and heavily punished.

At the time of writing news reaches us of an armed robbery being perpetrated in a house at Reclamation Street, last night. Five women were bound and gagged and property to the value of \$70 was stolen. The police have not made any arrests yet, but hope to do so ere long.

DROWNING OF A CAPTAIN.

A TRAGEDY AT SEA.

Yesterday morning, 20th ult., it was learned that Captain Wagermann, of the P. & A. steamer *Nicomedeia*, had been drowned shortly before the vessel entered the Straits of Shimoda. Full details of the occurrence are not yet to hand, but it appears that shortly before his disappearance the Captain was seen standing by the side of the vessel below the bridge, and as a high sea was running at the time, it is surmised that he fell overboard when the steamer gave a sudden lurch. As soon as the disappearance was discovered the vessel was turned round and a search made in the hope of finding him, but without success. What renders the event all the more sad is that Captain Wagermann expected to have his wife out here shortly. —*Japan Chronicle*.

SUN "FOOKSANG."

EXPERIENCES DIRTY WEATHER.

The Indo-China Steam Navigation Company's s.s. *Fooksang*, which arrived in port yesterday, reports that from Singapore, she experienced light to moderate north and north-easterly winds with slight swell till the parallel of 10° N. and 110° E. was reached. Here, a low area pressure was crossed, the wind commencing at west and west-north-west, and veering to north-east-east and settling in south-south-east; all the time, she was accompanied by a high confused sea. From 17° W. and 11° E. light, variable rain and calms set in, with a thin thirty miles of Gap Rock, when thick, foggy weather set in, with moderate to fresh north-easterly wind, which continued to port.

JAPANESE SUGAR REFINING COMPANY.

RUMOURED ABSORPTION BY THE MITSU BISHI.

The *Osaka Jiji* remarks that the position of the Dai Nippon Sugar Refining Company has been constantly eliciting public comment and produced a feeling of insecurity among those concerned. This state of things is ascribed by some shareholders to a want of proper care on the part of the directors. Our contemporary says that since the latter part of last year, the company has been receiving financial assistance from the Mitsui Bishi Company, and the funds so advanced have now reached about ¥100,000. The attention directed to the management of the company by the Mitsui Bishi has now become very marked. At the general meeting of the company held in November, the Mitsui Bishi transferred Mr. Tsunekawa, who represents its interests, from the post of auditor to that of a director, filling the vacancy so caused by appointing Mr. Shioda, another of its representatives, as auditor. In this way the Mitsui Bishi has been gradually extending its influence over the sugar-refining company, and has now begun buying up shares. The move was begun by the purchase of 2,500 shares through Mr. Tokumasa, a broker, who shares the Mitsui Bishi subsequently bought in the name of Mr. Kakumori, the chief accountant of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, 300 in the name of the son of Mr. Kondo, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and 2,000 shares in the name of Mr. Sato, of the Mitsui Bishi Bank. When the shares purchased in the names of others are added, the total already will be not less than 10,000. It is generally believed, says the *Jiji*, that the Mitsui Bishi will bring the sugar-refining company under its control as soon as the question of the reimbursement of duty on refined sugar is settled. When control is obtained, sweeping reforms will be introduced. —*Japan Chronicle*.

A NAGASAKI dispatch announces the dismissal by the Nagasaki Appeal Court on the 28th instant of the protest lodged by the Russian Consulate on behalf of the Russian Harbour Office at Vladivostok, against the sale by public auction of the Russian steamer *Amur* and *Dniester*, which were seized at Nagasaki for the settlement of a claim for Nagasaki concerns. The Russian Consul claimed that he had a prior right on the steamers.

The *Japan Chronicle* learns that M. Adolphe Gysin, has been successful in arranging for a further sum of ¥1,000,000 to be advanced to the Kanagafuchi Cotton Spinning Co., from the same bank and on the same terms as the 1st loan. Moreover, a syndicate has been at the same time formed in Paris for dealing in the shares of the Kanagafuchi, and as soon as the documents of the new loan are signed the syndicate will begin by purchasing 3,000 of the new shares. The fact that a new loan for a million yen has been arranged so soon after the first evidence of financial confidence in the position of the company, is the part of the French financiers concerned.

CANTON DAILY DAT.

A MISUNDERSTANDING REMOVED.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 31st December.

Yesterday morning the British Consul proceeded to see the Viceroy in connection with the *Tai On* case. The seizure of the steamer proceeded to be the result of a misunderstanding in the translation of the steamer's name *Tai On*, which sounds *Tai An* in the mandarin dialect. The papers of the steamer were accordingly furnished for evidence and satisfactory explanations had been given by the Consul, she was at once released.

THE CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

Yesterday, five prisoners, who were sentenced to death for armed robbery, were taken two from the Nanhai gaol and three from the Detective Department, to the execution ground and beheaded.

SOLDIERS WANTED.

The Viceroy has issued a proclamation to enlist some five hundred soldiers to fill the places vacated in the various garrisons.

COLLISION AT SEA.

A few days ago, the junk *Wing Fai*, in tow of a steam-launch, collided with the steam launch *Yuen Cheung*, at a place called Ho Gao and was seriously damaged.

A STEAMER'S PREDICAMENT.

Early this morning, the steamer *Kiashan*, while nearly Canton from Hongkong, took the ground above the Whampoa Dock, about 100 feet. She could not get off before the high tide and arrived here at nearly half-past eight, being three and a half hours behind time.

CHINESE MINING GRADUATE.

Mr. Wong Chung Yau, a mining graduate, who returned to America a few months ago, has been engaged by the Hunan Government Mining Syndicate. Mr. Wong's services are also necessary for the development of the mineral resources of Kwangtung. The Viceroy has wired to the Governor of Hunan asking him, if he can dispense with Mr. Wong to be transferred back to Canton.

4th January.

ARREST OF SUPPOSED REVOLUTIONISTS.

On the 25th ultimo, in accordance with telegraphic orders from the Viceroy, the Commandant-chief Chiu Ping Chik at Wanchow arrested an alleged revolutionist belonging to his bodyguards, and on the following day, the man was brought to Canton to be dealt with. It is reported that the prisoner is an accomplice of the two revolutionists who were beheaded a short time ago.

On the 1st instant, two more revolutionists were arrested in Wah Ning Li Street in consequence of order of Admiral Li Chün on information received.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

The Canton Railway has been in receipt of a telegram from H.E. Chang Chih-tung, superintendent of the Canton-Hankow Railway, in which H.E. Chang inquired if the amount of capital, as paid up, of the Canton-Hankow Railway Company at Canton is considered to be sufficient for the construction of the portion of the railway in the province of Kwangtung, or a foreign loan, under the same terms as that now floated for the provinces of Hupéi and Hunan, is necessary.

AMERICAN CONSUL TO CANTON.

To-morrow, at 11 a.m., the Viceroy will receive the American Consul at Canton.

THE "FATSHAN" INCIDENT.

With a view to appease the minds of the public, the Viceroy has now again issued a proclamation to assure the people that the *Fatshan* case will be shortly settled at a Court to be held at the Portuguese Consulate-General here and the result of the inquiry is expected to be very satisfactory. At the same time, the Viceroy strictly prohibited the boycott propaganda on the steamer *Fatshan*.

7th January.

CHINA'S NAVY.

Tsai Shun Yung Hing, a member of the House of War, who is on a Commission to inspect the Naval force in the various provinces, arrived here on the 3rd instant on board the transport *Po Pi*. To start with his duty here Tsai Shun will proceed to Whampoa to visit the Military establishments and test the mines there.

PROPOSED MART.

Certain well-to-do people are of the opinion to select a suitable site on the coast in the district of Heungshan and turn it into a mart following the example of the Kung Yick Mart in the Sunning district.

SUPPRESSION OF OPIUM-SMOKING.

The Viceroy has appointed Tantai Hui Kok to be Inspector of the Government Anti-Opium Bureau and to act in co-operation with the Tientsin-Gosabulary in the suppression of opium-smoking in Canton.

MEDICAL COLLEGES FOR CANTON.

In the first year of the present Chinese year, there will be two private medical colleges opened in this city, one of which is to be organized under the medical profession. Students will be selected to enter these colleges to be trained in medicine on Western lines.

TROUBLE WITH PAWN-BROKERS.

As the officials forced the pawn-brokers in this city to use the pawn-ticket form introduced by the Government Paper Factory, the pawn-brokers have now determined to go on a strike, if their petition is not satisfactorily considered.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

It was H.E. Chang Chih-tung's intention to propose to the South China Bank to make a loan of ¥1,000,000 to be advanced to the Canton-Hankow Railway and to settle the differences between the directors of the railway in Canton and the shareholders. His Excellency would not have failed to carry out his proposal, had not the death of the late Emperor Kuang Hui taken place in the preceding moon. H.E. Chang Chih-tung is now busily engaged in preparing for some time to come to proceed to Canton to further matters in connection with the railway. However, H.E. Chang Chih-tung the other day gave telegraphic instructions to the Canton Viceroy requesting him to privately inquire occasionally into matters concerning the Canton-Hankow Railway on his behalf and to report the results to him for his information.

AN ALLEGED INFESTOR.

The monk who was arrested in Fatshan some time ago for creating disturbances, thereby destroying the Police station, has been tried several times at the Nanhai Magistracy, but at each of these trials he persisted in refusing to give a reply to any questions put to him, and he even remained obdurate when he received strokes with the bamboo. As there is not sufficient evidence to justify his imprisonment, the alleged infestor, the Nanhai Magistracy has decided to send him back to Hankow to be dealt with by the local officials there as he is a member of the Kam Lo monastery at Hankow.

WEST RIVER PATROL.

Admiral Li Chün has placed an order with Messrs. Bailey & Co. for the building of a shallow draft gun-launch for a sum of ¥500,000.

for the most effectual patrolling of the waterways.

THE OPIUM CONFERENCE.

The representative of the American Government nominated to the forthcoming International Opium Conference at Shanghai on the 1st February arrived here last week and was invited by the committee of the Canton Anti-Opium Association on the 6th inst. to deliver a lecture on the subject of the evil at the Association's headquarters, when there was a large attendance. A warm reception was accorded the American visitor by the members of the Association. He made a speech on the subject of opium which was listened to with considerable interest by those present. The speaker was earnestly requested by the members of the Association to appeal to the Home Government to send doctors to China to assist the Empire in the suppression of opium-smoking, and he promised to do his best to comply with the request. On the 4th instant he gave a lecture on the same subject at the American Hospital.

[Our correspondent evidently refers to the Rev. E. W. Thwing's lecture. Mr. Thwing is incorrectly spoken of as the "American representative" to the Conference.—Ed. H.K.T.]

COMMERCIAL.

WEEKLY SHARE LIST.

Reviewing the share business for the week Messrs. Erich Georg & Co. write on 31st ult.

Since issue of our last report Christmas holidays have intervened, and this week but little business has been transacted. The sterling dividend rate of exchange on London closes at 25/10/11, while the rate on Shanghai is 75/1 for Bank 7/1, and 75/1 for 45 days' sight private draft, the rate in Shanghai on this for 3 days sight Private Bill being 75/1. Bar-silver in London has advanced to 23/4, and Consols are quoted 83 11/16. The Bank of England's rate of discount is 2 1/2 per cent, while the private rate of discount is 2 1/2 per cent. Bank Shares.—A few Hongkong and Shanghai shares are quoted 83 11/16. The Bank of England's rate of discount is 2 1/2 per cent, while the private rate of discount is 2 1/2 per cent. Marine Insurance Shares.—A few Unions are sold at 83 1/2, at which figure shares are on offer. North China's sold at 75/1 and continue in request. Cantons have sellers at 195/1, while China Indemnity at 87/1, and Yangtze at 162/1 are wanted.

Fire Insurance Shares.—Hongkong have been done at 137 1/2, but shares are offering. China's are earlier, and 136 1/2 has been accepted. Shipping Shares.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have sellers at 8 1/2. Indos are unchanged here; Shanghai 37 1/2 has been accepted, while the London rate is 43 1/2 for preference, and 41/10 for deferred shares. China and Manila are weak at 54. Douglases charged hands at 33, and a few more shares can be placed at that figure. Star Ferries, as well as Waterboats, show no change. Shell Transports have buyers at 47 shillings, the London rate having improved to 48 shillings, a second interim dividend of 1s. (coupon No. 11) has been declared on account of the year 1908, making 3s. 7d. per share to date. The dividend is payable on 2nd January, 1909.

Refineries.—A few China Sugars are for sale at 112/1, and Luzons are weak with sellers at 8 1/2. Minor Shares.—Chambongons are unchanged. Raubs have sellers at 8 1/2; last night's *Hongkong Telegraph* prints the Mining Manager's report for the four weeks ending 31st inst. Chinese Engineering and Mining Company's shares are in demand at 175/1; the total output of the company's three mines for the week ended 12th instant, amounted to 30,789 tons of coal, and the sales during the same period to 26,100 tons.

Docks, Wharves, Godowns, &c.—There is nothing to report under this heading, except that Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have been in some demand, resulting in sales at 54 1/2 to 55, and more shares can be placed. Shanghai Docks are quiet at 75/1. As mentioned in our circular of 19th inst., an interim dividend of 2s. 2d. per share on account of the current book year has been declared. Same is payable on 4th proximo, until which date the transfer books have been closed.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—The only change in the Kowloon Lands have sellers at 53 1/2, and Hotels buyers at 54. No sales have been reported.

Cotton Mills.—Shanghai quotes: Eros 75/1, 75 buyers; International 75/1, 67 buyers; Laou Kung Mow 75/1, 75 buyers; and Soyches 75/1, 28 buyers. Hongkong Cottons have buyers at 59 and sellers at 50.

Sundry Manufacturing Companies.—Hongkong Electric sold and have further inquiries at 58, Green Island Cements changed owners at 59 and 58, and have further sellers at 59, 50 lots are available at 52, 50. Ropes fetched 52, but more shares are obtainable. Other stocks under this heading without sales and unchanged.

Miscellaneous.—China Providents sold at 510. In other stocks under this heading nothing has been done and rates are the same as reported last.

We take this opportunity of wishing all our readers a Very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week, Messrs. E. S. Kadoolie & Co. write on 8th inst.

There has been a slightly better feeling in the market since we wrote last, but it has been the case for some time past, business has been kept owing to the reluctance on the part of holders to sell at present low prices. J.Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have needed to 54, at which rate they have been sold. The London quotation is 52 1/2. Marine Insurances.—Cantons have been dealt in at 195/1, while North China have enquiries at the slightly reduced rate of 175/1. Sales of Unions have taken place at 83 1/2.

Fire Insurances.—China Fires have been sold at 137 1/2. Hongkong Fires are weak, and can be had at 136 1/2.

Shipping.—Shell Transports, are slightly easier at 47 1/2, dividend of 1s. per share paid on the 2nd instant. Douglases are enquired for at 33 but none are obtainable for at the rate. Refineries.—China Sugars are still on offer at 112/1 and Luzons at 8 1/2.

Mining.—Chinese Engineering have sellers at 175/1. Raubs are wanted at 8 1/2 while a few sales have taken place at lower rates. Docks, Wharves, Godowns.—Kowloon Wharves remain firm at 56 1/2. Whampoa Docks have been dealt in to a fair extent at 50, closing with further buyers. A further rise in Shanghai Docks has taken place and there are sellers at 75/1, 77 ex the interim dividend of 2s. 2d. per share paid in Shanghai on the 4th instant.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Hotels have buyers at the slightly improved rate of 55. Shanghai Lands can be sold at 120. Small sales of Hongkong Lands have taken place at 59 1/2. In other stocks under this heading we have no change to report. Cotton Mills.—Eros have changed hands at 75/1, 75 buyers; International 75/1, 67 buyers; Laou Kung Mow 75/1, 75 buyers; and Soyches 75/1, 28 buyers. Hongkong Cottons have dropped to 50, but they can be placed at the rate.

Miscellaneous.—Hongkong Ropes have been placed at 52 1/2 and China Ropes at 51. There are sellers of China Providents at 510. Hongkong Electric's are wanted at 58. Union Waterboats have been booked at 510. Langkats have buyers at the reduced rate of 75/1, 85, and Sumatra are in demand at 75/1.

Exchange.—The Bank's selling rate on London is 19/1 on demand. The T.T. rate on Shanghai is 75/1.

Forward Settlements.—The following dates have been fixed by the Stock Brokers Association of Hongkong for Forward Settlements:—

January Settlement 29th January.

February " 26th February.

March " 30th March.

April " 29th April.

May " 31st May.

June " 29th June.

YARN MARKET.

In their report dated 8th instant, Messrs. Phipps, B. Pettit & Co. write:—

Our last circular was dated the 24th December, 1908.

The past fortnight has been one of comparative inactivity due to explainable causes. The first of these is the fact of the near approach of China New Year which falls on the 22nd inst. According to custom Chinese dealers do not look upon the eleventh month of their calendar year as a propitious one for entering into fresh engagements. The period is rather one which finds the natives busy in closing their accounts preparatory to their departure for home districts, or to enjoy their annual recess following the New Year by those whose family ties bind them to the Colony for the time being.

What little business that has been effected during the past fortnight has been the result of inter-selling between dealers themselves. Under the influence of steady exchange, with a sharp recovery at this writing, importers were willing to give way one to two dollars per bale on last month's quotations. With these concessions a few settlements transpired. The effect of the present business being carried on in second-hands will be to further reduce the already diminished stocks in importers' godowns, and in view of an anticipated improvement in the silver market, prospects of renewed activity in the yarn market are within menurable distance as soon as the China New Year holidays are over.

From Japan the report reaches us that forward sales have been contracted for delivery from January to April to Chinese firms both in Osaka and Shanghai. After the prolonged period of inactivity in the Japanese cotton yarn market, these forward sales amounting to some 21,500 bales, of which 5,500 are reported on Japanese account, may be accepted as an indication of the hopeful outlook which the consuming districts are capable of opening with political and physical conditions in the country assuming their normal aspect.

No. 20s.—Suitable and selected threads were sold at a decline of 1/1 to 1 1/2 per bale.

No. 12s. and 10s.—Only a few Mills' production changed hands at current rates.

No. 8s. and 6s.—Nothing doing.

Market closes steady.

Sales:—275 bales of No. 20s, 175 bales of No. 12s, 50 bales of No. 10s, and 300 bales of No. 8s, all about 800 bales.

Arrivals:—Per steamers *Asahi*, *Wakamiya*, *Maru* and *Delhi* about 6,000 bales.

Unsold Stock:—About 23,000 bales.

Unsold Stock:—About 12,000 bales.

Exchange:—We quote to-day's rates:—

India T.T. at 134 1/2 per cent.

London T.T. at 134 1/2 per cent.

Shanghai T.T. at 75/1.

Silver 23 13/16 per 100.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Messrs. Guedes & Co. have issued a useful Anglo-Chinese Calendar for 1909.

ARTIFICER-ENGINEER W. S. L. Collins joins the despatch ship *Alacrité*, China Squadron, for duty, with effect from 27th November.

The cruiser *Crescent* arrived at Spithead from Hongkong on 29th Nov. with the paid off crew of several vessels on the China Station.

ENGINEER Sub-Lieutenant F. B. Jaques has been appointed to the cruiser *King Alfred* (flagship of the China Squadron) on transfer from the battleship *Triumph*, Channel Fleet.

CAPTAIN A. H. Proctor, I.M.S., was in medical charge of two double Companies of 16th Batta while in camp at Tai Lam Ching, from 16th November to 29th November, 1908, inclusive, in addition to his own regimental duties.

THE Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd., announces that the total output of the Company's three mines for the week ending December 19, amounted to 20,337 tons and the sales during the period to 23,051 tons.

The undermentioned details left the Command on 1st inst. per s.s. *Stella*, for London:—H.K.S.B. R.G.A.—Captain H. C. Montrose, 3rd Midd. Regt.—1 N.C.O., 1 woman, 3 children, 2nd Canton High—2 N.C.O.'s and men, 1 woman, 2 children.

OWING to the strictness with which the officials of Fugangshan, Fokien, have put a stop to the planting of poppy in that district, a number of country people, led on by desperadoes and evil characters, mobbed a small detachment of soldiers charged with the duty of patrolling the country-side and killed a lieutenant and several soldiers.

JUST as we were going to print news reached us of a fire which had broken out at Hunghom. Inquiries made at headquarters elicited the information that the outbreak had occurred in the *Chung Chai* match and near the Electric Light works and was still burning at the time. The match was for coal engaged in cutting down the hill for the railway.

Messrs. Melchers & Co. send up a Chinese calendar from the Royal Insurance Co., Ltd.

THE P. and O. s.s. *Morav*, which left London on 4th ult., took the following specie for Shanghai:—Bar silver, £70,000.

THE King has been pleased to approve of Señor Don Lino Clemente Herrera as Consul General of Panama at Hongkong.

Mrs. Herbert Chatley, B.Sc., has been appointed Professor in Civil Engineering at the Tang Shan Engineering College, North China.

SEN-LIEUTENANT Jacques has been ordered to join the *King Alfred*, flagship of the China Squadron.

Monsieur C. V. E. Bapst, French Minister in Peking, has been appointed to the Foreign Office in Paris.

It is stated from Hoken that the Manchurian House Hotel, owned by Mr. H. Fuchs, has been completely destroyed by fire.

SILVER and copper coins bearing date of the first year of Hsien Tung have been minted, and these will be issued for currency very shortly.

LIEUT. Colonel Hyperoux, of the 2nd regiment of French Colonial Infantry, has been appointed to the post of Chief of Staff of the troops of Indo-China.

A RELIEF fund for the sufferers by the Italian earthquake has been opened at the Italian Bank at Shanghai. The members of the Consular Body have no message of sympathy to the Italian Consul.

THE new coloured 10-cent Chinese postage stamp is now in use at Shanghai and other places; and its colour is changed to a slaty blue or cobalt. There is only the 4 cents now to be issued in red.

GOH PAH and So Ho, two Chinese opium smokers at Manly, were on 4th inst. adjudged guilty of "bitting the pipe" and given six months' imprisonment each and ordered to pay a fine of P200 each.

THE Chinese Engineering and Mining Company's total output of company's three mines for the week ended Dec. 19, amounted to 56,937 tons and the sales during the period to 23,057 tons.

THE Peak murder trial was concluded at the Criminal Session late yesterday afternoon. About five o'clock the jury retired to consider their verdict, returning into Court fourteen minutes afterwards. They found the first prisoner not guilty, and the second and third guilty of manslaughter.

FROM Messrs. F. J. de Noronha & Co., printers, publishers and bookbinders of Shanghai, Canton, we have received a very artistic pocket-book. The cover is of gold tooling with a study of a girl's head in colour. The pretty advertising medium is characteristic of the firm's enterprise.

POLICE-sergeant Kipell, of the Water Police Station, prosecuted Hop Sing, a contractor, of 15, Gage Street, in the Police Court, last Tuesday, for failing to take the necessary precaution while blasting stone at Chater Road, Kowloon, so as to prevent fragments flying about to the danger of pedestrians. A fine of \$20 was imposed.

Mrs. Arnold, of Westbourne Villa, Babington Path, prosecuted two of her servants—a cook and a "boy"—in the Police Court, for larceny. The accused were charged with stealing a quantity of apples and one bottle of brandy. After evidence had been heard the charge against the cook was withdrawn, while the "boy" was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour.

THE richest and most eccentric man in Switzerland, Dr. Gabriel, died the other day near Geneva, leaving a fortune of \$500,000, most of which he made in America. Gabriel was a man of the simplest habits and would wear the shabbiest clothes. Many tourists visiting his beautiful Chateau d'Albi accepted his services as guide under the impression that he was one of the gardeners. Gabriel used to take his tips with gloom.

SERGEANT Gordon of Cheung-chau, Police Station, made a diligent last Monday. Acting on information received he visited a certain house on the island and seized three cases of dynamite, for which the owners—five coolies—had no permit. The quartette were hauled before Mr. J. H. Kemp, in the Police Court, on Tuesday forenoon, and pleading guilty to the charge two men were fined \$75 each and the others \$50 apiece.

THE *s.s. Marco* sailed from Dalry on December 27 with nearly 10,000 tons of Manchurian beans, insurance on which is covered by the London underwriters. At the request of the Agents of Lloyd, Messrs. Holmes, Ringer and Co., Capt. Matsuo, of the Marine Bureau, made the required inspection and signed the certificate of survey. Mutilation may also be made of a probable further export of beans by the *s.s. Marco* now in the port.

THE servant girl Chan Shu-Mui, who was arrested the other day, charged with stealing ten pearls, valued at \$1,100, from a family at 26, Stanton Street, was arraigned to answer the charge in the Police Court, last Tuesday afternoon. Mr. F. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Goldring, Barlow and Morrell) appeared for the prosecution. Mr. E. J. Crist (of Messrs. Wilson and Crist) defended. Evidence was heard and the case adjourned.

A COOLIE, giving the name of Wong Pak, thirty years of age, of 4, Upper Rutter Street, was, last Monday, found in possession of a box, which had been reported stolen by one Macdonald, of 35, Des Vaux Road Central. Wong could not explain matters to the satisfaction of the police, and of being charged on Tuesday morning, in the Police Court, with unlawful possession, he pleaded guilty to the charge and a month's hard labour which he took.

LIVING in the Government Civil Hospital in a precarious condition, is a coolie, who was the victim of a serious assault made upon him at Wanchai last Monday morning. In a dispute between himself and a companion, the man was struck on the head with an earthenware basin and knocked insensible. The force of the blow broke the basin and a splinter entered the unfortunate man's skull. His assailant escaped, and the coolie was taken to the hospital for treatment. He is not expected to live.

THE management of the new Astor House (late Connanghi Hotel) desires it to be known that the hotel is now for some time been under new management and is excellent in every respect. There are forty-eight comfortable apartments for the accommodation of guests and the other appointments are all complete and up-to-date. The cuisine is under the charge of a French chef. The Astor House makes a specialty to cater to the requirements of private parties.

CAPT. D. Beatty, who was to recommission the *Queen of the South*, occupies the fifth position in the list of his rank. He will not attain his 50th birthday until Jan. 17, and on reaching the flag rank in the near future, will be the youngest rear-admiral in the fleet. This unusually rapid advance is due to Capt. Beatty's brilliant war services, which include much work in Egypt and afterwards in the Boxer troubles, when he was commander of the battleship *Beatty* on the China Station. After the attack on the Chinese Station, he led a desperate attack on two Chinese gunboats, which were causing a great deal of trouble, and was twice wounded in his gallant, but daring, efforts.

INVITATIONS have been issued for the Volunteer Ball to be held at the City Hall on the 14th inst.

WE have received the initial number of a Portuguese weekly printed at Macao and styled *Vida Nova* (new life).

THE U. S. War Department has issued a denial of the report that Mr. Bryan will become Governor of the Philippines.

THE King's exequatur empowering Mr. L. G. Herrera to be Consul-General for Panama at Hongkong has received His Majesty's signature.

Mr. Heinrich Holland, who is motoring round the world, will deliver a lecture at the German Club at 9 p.m. to-morrow. The lecture will be illustrated by lantern slides.

REGULATIONS for the issue of licences to wholesale dealers in cocaine and its salts, together with the conditions on which such licences are granted, are published in the *Gazette*.

HIS Excellency the Governor has been pleased to recognise Mr. W. Kien as being in charge of the consulate-general of the Netherlands in Hongkong during the absence on leave of Dr. A. van de Sande Bakthuyzen.

IN the Police Court, this morning, Chao Shui, an unemployed coolie, was charged with robbing one Kwok Mi Yung and Fan Chun of money, goods and chattels at No. 17, Bulkeley Street, Hongkong, yesterday. The case was remanded.

HIS Excellency the Governor-in-Council has been pleased to appoint the Honourable Mr. A. M. Thomson, Messrs. E. H. d'Almeida, R. H. Crofton, S. B. C. Ross, and Dr. F. W. Clark to be directors of the Widows' and Orphans' Pensions, with effect from the 31st ultimo.

SUMMONSES, returnable last Tuesday, were issued against the master of the Kwan Yee shop, 122, Queen's Road Central, by Detective Sergeant Terrell, for selling poison without a druggist licence, and for not having each bottle labelled "Poison" as is required by law. The poison was strychnine. The accused was fined \$50.

THE Right Hon. Sir Cecil Clementi Smith, G.C.M.G., is a passenger by the P. and O. *s.s. Aegle*, leaving Marseilles on Christmas Day. Passengers for the Straits and China tranship at Colombo to the *Devenia* which will arrive at Singapore on or about Friday, Jan. 15th. Field Marshal Lord Roberts, Lady Roberts and Ladies A. and E. Roberts are also passengers by the *Mooltan*, probably for Egypt.

THE manager of the Shing Kee firm of comedians, 12, Queen Victoria Street, and two other firms were prosecuted, at the instance of Inspector Withers, in the Police Court, last Tuesday, with being in possession of scales which, as it was alleged, did not come up to the standard weight. The charges were proved and the first two defendants were each mulcted in the sum of \$20 each, the other paying \$15 for the offence.

VICKROY Yang Shih-shiang, of Chihli has obtained the sanction of the Throne to construct a "Pailon" or Memorial Arch in honour of a wife of the late Marshal Ma Yu-kun, Provincial Commander-in-Chief of Chihli. It appears that the lady committed suicide as soon as the late Marshal died, determined not to survive her husband. Posthumous honours are also to be given to the lady by the Throne in recognition of her faithfulness to her husband.

INFORMATION has been received from the Naval Authorities to the effect that His Majesty's surveying ships *Mermaid* and *Waterwitch* at present at "East Dock Buoy" and "G" buoy respectively are engaged in taking observations of tidal stream off the entrance to the New Admiralty dry dock. Masters of craft and coxswains of launches should keep clear of these vessels, and proceed at slow speed when passing, as the wash set up by them is liable to interfere with correct observations.

THE railway line from Kaifeng to Honanfu was opened on 26th ult. The right to construct a line from Kaifeng, capital of Honan, by Honanfu to Hainan, in the heart of Shensi, was granted in the autumn of 1903 to a Belgian Company. The section from Kaifeng to Chengchow where connection is made with the Peking-Hankow Railway was opened in April 1907. With the new section now opened the total length of line constructed up to date is 225 kilometres. The line serves a fertile and populous country.

THE steamer *Hanping*, which has been resting on the bottom of the river since her collision with H. M. S. *Nora* some three months ago, has at last been raised from her bed of mud. Carderians had been constructed round the steamer's hold in order to pump the water out, but great difficulties were encountered, but these were finally surmounted by the Dock Company and the vessel now lies on her side on the Pooling shore. A few patches are necessary before she can be righted and taken into dock for a complete overhaul—*Shanghai Times*.

THE contract for the construction of the new graving dock at Singapore has been given to Messrs. Topham, Jones, and Raiton, who finished recently the new admiralty dock at Gibraltar. There are at present harbour improvement and dock works in progress at Singapore involving an expenditure of three millions. The contractors engaged are Sir John Jackson, Limited (mole and harbour reclamation), Westminster Construction Company (wharf accommodation and large wet dock), and now this new contract.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

FROM and after 1st January, 1900, the rates of Subscription to the *Hongkong Telegraph* (daily and weekly issues) will be as follows:

DAILY—\$36 per annum.

WEEKLY—\$13 per annum.

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The daily issue is delivered free when the address is accessible to messenger. Peak subscribers can have their copies delivered at their residences without any extra charge. On copies sent by post an additional \$1.50 per quarter is charged for postage.

The postage on the weekly issue to any part of the world is 50 cents per quarter.

Single Copies, Daily, ten cents. Weekly, twenty-five cents (for cash only).

(PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.)

There will be no rebate to Miscellaneous Subscribers as heretofore.

By Order,

THE MANAGER,
Hongkong Telegraph Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 22nd December, 1899.

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. E. B. KADONNIE & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 31.

STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT		LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE RATES OF INTEREST ON LAST YEAR'S DIV.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
				RESERVE.	AT WORKING ACCOUNT.			
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	100,000	\$125	\$125	\$1,500,000 \$14,000,000 \$15,500,000	\$2,405,774	Interim of 4s for first half year @ ex 1/10 = \$21.048	5 1/2 %	\$140 sales London \$140 1/2
National Bank of China, Limited	90,000	£7	£6	\$1,000,000 \$11,000,000 \$12,000,000	\$10,223	2s (London 1/6) for 1903	—	\$11
MARINE INSURANCE.								
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,500,000 \$13,757 \$15,257 \$16,757	none	2s for 1907	7 1/2 %	\$195 sales
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	Tia. 150,000 Tia. 50,747 Tia. 200,747	Tia. 160,312	Final of 7/6 making 15/- for 1907	5 1/2 %	Tia. 104 buyers
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	12,400	\$250	\$100	\$1,500,000 \$15,958 \$17,458 \$18,958	\$2,106,011	Final of 3/- making 34/- for 1906 and Interim of 5/6 for 1907	5 1/2 %	\$125 buyers
Anglo-Siam Insurance Association, Limited	15,000	\$100	\$50	\$1,500,000 \$19,032 \$20,532 \$21,532	\$502,768	2s and bonus 3s for 1906	8 1/2 %	\$175 buyers
FIRE INSURANCE.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	70,000	\$100	\$50	\$1,500,000 \$14,007 \$15,507 \$16,507	\$572,432	2s and bonus 2s for 1906	7 1/2 %	\$106 sales
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,500,000 \$15,244 \$16,744 \$17,744	\$418,057	2s for 1906	8 %	\$225 sellers
SHIPPING.								
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	30,000	\$25	\$25	\$7,000 \$24,638 \$31,638	\$2,021	2s for 1906	—	\$14
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	\$10,000 \$29,067 \$39,067	Nil.	2s 1/2 for year ending 30.1.1908	7 1/2 %	\$55
Jongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	80,000	\$15	\$15	\$10,000 \$21,766 \$31,766	\$17,755	2 1/2 for first half-year ending 30.6.08	8 1/2 %	\$20 1/2 sales
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Preferred) ..	60,000	£5	£5	\$10,000 \$24,000 \$34,000	£13,755	6/- for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex 1/10 11/16m 3/4 1/4	5 1/2 %	\$137 \$17
Do. (Deferred)	60,000	£5	£5	\$10,000 \$24,000 \$34,000	£13,755	6/- for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex 1/10 11/16m 3/4 1/4	5 1/2 %	\$137 \$17
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tia. 50	Tia. 50	Tia. 70,000 \$70,000 \$140,000	Tia. 14,510	Interim of Tia. 14 for account 1908	7 1/2 %	Tia. 47 1/2
Do. (Preferred)	200,000	Tia. 50	Tia. 50	Tia. 70,000 \$70,000 \$140,000	Tia. 14,510	Interim of Tia. 14 for account 1908	7 1/2 %	Tia. 47 1/2
Shall "Transport and Trading Company, Limited	100,000	£1	£1	\$1,000,000 \$10,000 \$11,000	\$2,817	Second interim of 1/- for a/c 1908	6 1/2 %	Tia. 118 buyers 45/- buyers
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$5	\$1,000,000 \$10,000 \$11,000	\$2,817	£1.00 for year ending 30.4.1908	4 1/2 %	\$24
Do.	10,000	\$10	\$5	\$1,000,000 \$10,000 \$11,000	\$2,817	£1.00 for year ending 30.4.1908	4 1/2 %	\$24
Taka Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	30,000	Tia. 50	Tia. 50	Tia. 70,000 \$70,000 \$140,000	Tia. 6,869	Final of Tia. 24 making Tia. 5 for 1907	11 %	Tia. 45
REFINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,500,000 \$15,358 \$16,858 \$17,858	Dr. \$279,372	2s for year ending 31.12.06	—	\$12 1/2 sellers
Union Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,500,000 \$15,358 \$16,858 \$17,858	Dr. \$135,573	2s for year ending 31.12.06	—	\$18 sellers
Arab Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	7,000	Tia. 50	Tia. 50	\$1,500,000 \$15,358 \$16,858 \$17,858	Tia. 9,773	Tia. 31 for year ending 31.5.08	—	Tia. 90 buyers
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	1,000,000	£1	£1	£17,100 £17,100 £17,100	£12,556	Final of 1/6 (coupon No. 11) for year end- ing 30.2.08	7 %	Tia. 17 sellers
Robt. Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited ..	100,000	£1	£1	£17,100 £17,100 £17,100	Dr. £2,191	No. 12 of 1/- = 48 cents	—	\$9 sellers
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Swire (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$25	\$25	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$2,726	2s for year ending 31.12.06	—	\$12
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$50	\$50	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$2,726	Final of 2s making 3s for 1907	7 1/2 %	\$46 sales
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$50	\$50	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$2,726	Interim of 2s for account 1907	8 1/2 %	\$50 and 1/2
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.	55,700	Tia. 100	Tia. 100	Tia. 1,000,000 \$1,000,000 \$1,000,000	Tia. 13,742	Interim of Tia. 34 for 6 months ending 31st October, 1908	6 1/2 %	Tia. 77 sellers
Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Company, Limited ..	38,000	Tia. 100	Tia. 100	Tia. 60,000 Tia. 75,000 Tia. 135,000	Tia. 22,626	Interim of Tia. 4 for account 1908	6 %	Tia. 195 sales
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.	25,000	Tia. 100	Tia. 100	Tia. 15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	Tia. 6,531	Tia. 6 for 1907	6 1/2 %	Tia. 100 1/2
Astor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai) ..	30,000	\$25	\$25	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	Dr. \$4,300	2s for year ending 30.6.07	—	\$14 1/2
Central Stores, Limited	50,150	\$25	\$25	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$6,178	2s for 1906	—	\$14 1/2 buyers
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000	\$50	\$50	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$14,039	Interim of 2s for account 1908	7 1/2 %	\$21 buyers
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.	50,000	\$100	\$100	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$14,039	Interim of 2s for account 1908	7 1/2 %	\$25 sellers
Compreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	\$10	\$10	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$14,039	70 cents for 1907	7 1/2 %	\$21 sellers
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	\$50	\$50	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$14,039	2s for 1907	5 1/2 %	\$23 sellers
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tia. 50	Tia. 50	Tia. 1,500,000 \$1,500,000 \$1,500,000	Tia. 107,547	Interim of Tia. 3 for account 1908	7 %	Tia. 120 buyers
Vest Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	\$50	\$50	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,541	Interim of 2s for account 1908	9 %	\$46
COTTON MILLS.								
Two Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.	15,000	Tia. 50	Tia. 50	Tia. 150,000 Tia. 15,000 \$165,000	Tia. 8,800	Tia. 5 for year ended 31.10.1908	6 1/2 %	Tia. 79 sales
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	15,000	\$10	\$10	\$150,000 \$15,000 \$165,000	\$9,153	50 cents for year ending 31.7.08	5 1/2 %	\$9 buyers
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	10,000	Tia. 75	Tia. 75	Tia. 175,000 \$175,000 \$175,000	Tia. 8,372	Tia. 6 for year ended 30.9.08 (8 X)	—	Tia. 6 1/2
Long-kong Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	Tia. 100	Tia. 100	\$1,800,000 \$18,000 \$19,800	Tia. 6,000	Tia. 8 for 1906	—	Tia. 71 sellers
Long-kong Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	3,000	Tia. 100	Tia. 100	\$1,800,000 \$18,000 \$19,800	Tia. 2,000	Tia. 50 for 1906	—	Tia. 64 buyers
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Shell's Asbestos-Rubber Agency, Limited	5,000	12 1/2	12 1/2	\$1,500 \$15,000 \$16,500	\$2,608	12 1/2 per share for 1907 = \$1.037	12 1/2 %	\$2 buyers
China-Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	\$12	\$12	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	Nil.	2s for 1907	12 1/2 %	\$12 and 1/2
Hongkong Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$2,193	60 cents for year ended 31.2.08	8 %	\$21
Do. (Special shares)	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$2,193	60 cents for 1907	8 %	\$10 sellers
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ltd.	155,000	\$10	\$10	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$2,193	80 cents for 1907	8 %	\$21
Yam Yuen Company, Limited	25,000	\$25	\$5	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$2,193	2s for year ending 31.7.08	5 1/2 %	\$24
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	400,000	\$10	\$10	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,078	Interim of 40 cents for account 1908	10 %	\$25
H. Price & Company, Limited	15,000	\$10	\$10	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,078	74 cents for 9 months ending 31.12.07	8 %	\$21 buyers
Hall & Holtz, Limited	21,000	\$20	\$20	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,078	2s for year ending 31.2.08	10 %	\$21 buyers
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	\$10	\$10	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,078	2s and bonus 20 cts. for year ending 30.2.08	6 1/2 %	\$18 buyers
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	\$25	\$25	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,078	Interim of 2s for account 1908	8 1/2 %	\$200 sellers
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	60,000	\$10	\$10	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,078	Interim of 2s for account 1908	8 %	\$24 sales
Maatschappij tot Exploitatie van Landbouw-plantingen in Langkat, Limited	25,000	Ga. 100	Ga. 100	Tia. 175,000 Tia. 17,500 \$192,500	Tia. 17,137	4th Quarterly div. of Tia. 10 and bonus of Tia. 10 making 50 to date	5 1/2 %	Tia. 50 buyers
Peak Tramways Company, Limited	25,000	\$10	\$10	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,078	80 cents on fully paid shares and 6 cents on 1/- paid shares for year ending 30.4.08	6 1/2 %	\$24
Peak Tramways Company (new)	25,000	\$10	\$10	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,078	80 cents on fully paid shares and 6 cents on 1/- paid shares for year ending 30.4.08	6 1/2 %	\$24
Philippine Company, Limited	75,000	\$10	\$10	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	Nil.	None	4 1/2 %	\$8
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	24,000	Tia. 50	Tia. 50	Tia. 100,000 Tia. 14,800 Tia. 115,200	Tia. 6,603	Final of Tia. 4 making Tia. 7 1/2 for 1907	6 1/2 %	Tia. 120 buyers
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	24,000	Tia. 50	Tia. 50	Tia. 100,000 Tia. 14,800 Tia. 115,200	Tia. 6,603	Final of Tia. 4 making Tia. 7 1/2 for 1907	6 1/2 %	Tia. 120 buyers
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	18,350	£20	£20	Tia. 150,000 \$15,000 \$165,000	Tia. 14,222	Final of 37/6 making 58/6 for 1907	—	Tia. 437 1/2
South China Morning Post, Limited	6,000	\$25	\$25	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,078	None	—	\$24
Team Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	\$5	\$5	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,078	40 cents for year ending 31.5.08	8 %	\$24
Termin Waterworks Company, Limited	2,000	Tia. 100	Tia. 100	Tia. 15,000 Tia. 4,000 \$19,000	Tia. 201	Tia. 6 1/2 for year ending 30.4.07	5 %	Tia. 24 buyers
Union Waterboat Company, Limited	50,000	\$20	\$20	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,078	50 cents for 1907	5 %	\$10 sales
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	20,000	\$10	\$4	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,078	80 cents on 9,000 ord. shares and \$10.80 on 100 Preference shares for yr. end. 31.5.07 Interim of 50 cents a/c 1908	6 1/2 %	\$13 buyers
Watson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited	90,000	\$10	\$10	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,078	Final of 50 cts. making 50 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1906	6 1/2 %	\$24
Villiers Power Co., Limited	15,000	\$7	\$7	\$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000	\$1,078	None	—	\$4
* These shares are entitled to half of the profits.								
DIVIDENDS PAYABLE.—								

The Hongkong Telegraph.

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

NEW SERIES No. 5071

號七十月二十年四十三緒光

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1909.

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Banks.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

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RESERVE FUNDS
Sinking
\$1,500,000 at 2 1/2%—\$15,000,000
Sinking
\$1,500,000 at 2 1/2%—\$15,000,000

RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROP'ORS \$15,000,000

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W. Helms, Esq. R. E. Tomkins, Esq.
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MANAGER:
Shanghai—W. ADAMS ORAM.
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HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED:
On Current Account at the rate of 1 per Cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:
For 3 months, 2 1/2 per Cent. per Annum.
For 6 months, 3 1/2 per Cent. per Annum.
For 12 months, 4 1/2 per Cent. per Annum.
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 15th October, 1908. [20]

INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION.

CAPITAL PAID UP GOLD \$3,250,000
ABOUT MEX \$7,232,322
RESERVE FUND GOLD \$3,250,000
ABOUT MEX \$7,232,322

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NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND, LIMITED.

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THE Corporation transacts every Description of Banking and Exchange Business, receives Money in Current Account at the rate of 2 1/2 per cent. on daily balances and accepts Fixed Deposits at the following rates:
For 12 months 4 1/2 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4 " " "
" 3 " 3 " " "

No. 9, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

W. M. ANDERSON,
Manager.
Hongkong, 8th April, 1908. [18]

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.
HEAD OFFICE—LONDON.

PAID-UP CAPITAL £1,500,000
RESERVE FUND £1,525,000
RESERVE LIABILITIES OF PROPRIETORS £1,500,000

INTEREST ALLOWED ON CURRENT ACCOUNT at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the Daily Balances.

On Fixed Deposits for 12 months, 4 per cent.
" 6 " 3 1/2 " "
" 3 " 3 " "

JOHN ARMSTRONG,
Manager.
Hongkong, 13th May, 1908. [21]

NEDERLANDSCHE HANDEL-MAATSCHAPPIJ.

(Netherlands Trading Society.)

ESTABLISHED 1824.

PAID-UP CAPITAL Fl. 4,000,000 (£1,750,000).
RESERVE FUND Fl. 5,752,884.84 (about £470,000)

Head Office—AMSTERDAM.

Head Agency—BATAVIA.

BRANCHES:—Singapore, Penang, Shanghai, Rangoon, Samarang, Sourabaya, Cheribon, Tegal, Pecalongan, Paseroean, Tjilatjap, Padang, Medan (Deli), Palembang, Kota-Radia (Achen), Bandjermasin.
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LONDON BANKERS:
THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITH'S BANK, LIMITED.

THE Bank buys and sells and receives for collection Bills of Exchange, issues letters of credit on its Branches and correspondents in the East, on the Continent, in Great Britain, America, and Australia, and transacts banking business of every description.

INTEREST ALLOWED:
On Current Accounts 2 1/2 per annum on daily balance.

Fixed Deposits 12 months 4 1/2 per annum.
" 6 " 3 1/2 " "
" 3 " 3 " "

J. L. VAN HOUTEN,
Agent.
Hongkong, 16th July 1908. [19]

Banks.

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.

CAPITAL PAID-UP Yen 24,000,000
RESERVE FUNDS 15,100,000

Head Office—YOKOHAMA.

Branches and Agencies:
TOKIO, OHKAWA, TIEN-TSIN, KOBÉ, PEKIN, OSAKA, NEWOHAWANG, NAGASAKI, DALNY, LONDON, PORT ARTHUR, LYONS, SAN FRANCISCO, ANTONG, NEW YORK, LIOYANG, HONOLULU, MUKDEN, BOMBAY, TIAN-LING, SHANGHAI, CHANG-CHUN, HANKOW.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED:
On Current Account at the rate of 1 per cent. per Annum on the Daily Balance.

On fixed deposit:
For 12 months 5 1/2 per cent.
" 6 " 4 1/2 " "
" 3 " 3 " "

TAKKO TAKAMICHI,
Manager.
Hongkong, 12th September, 1908. [17]

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE Business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3 1/2 per Cent. per annum.

Depositors may transfer at their option balances of \$100 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 4 per Cent. per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 12th January, 1907. [2]

DEUTSCH ASIATISCHER BANK.

CAPITAL FULLY PAID-UP, Sh. Tael: 7,500,000

HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS: BERLIN.

BRANCHES:
Berlin, Calcutta, Hamburg, Hankow, Kobe, Peking, Singapore, Tientsin, Tientsin, Tientsin, Yokohama.

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Koenigliche Seehandlung (Preussische Staatsbank), Direction der Disconto-Gesellschaft, Deutsche Bank, S. Bleichroeder, Berliner Handels-Gesellschaft, Bank fuer Handel und Industrie, Robert Warshawsky & Co., Mendelssohn & Co., M. A. von Rothschild & Soehne, Frankfurt, Jacob S. H. Stern, Norddeutsche Bank in Hamburg, Hamburg, Sal. Oppenheim Jr. & Co., Koeln, Bayerische Hypothek und Wechselbank, Muenchen.

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Messrs. N. M. ROYSCHEID & SONS.
THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITH'S BANK, LIMITED.

DEUTSCHE BANK (BERLIN), LONDON AGENT,
DIRECTION DER DISCONTO GESELLSCHAFT.

INTEREST allowed on Current Account DEPOSITS received on terms which may be issued on application. Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

A. KOHN,
Manager.
Hongkong, 4th December, 1907. [23]

Intimations.

CHRISTMAS WEEK!

CHRISTMAS WEEK!!

Remember there is such a place in TOWN, by name THE SAVOY, where you can obtain your Christmas Outfit at Cost Price.

Do not ponder over the offer.

Call and see with your own eyes and you will be satisfied.

Hongkong, 10th December, 1908. [25]

MUSIC LESSON.

LESSONS in Violin, Mandoline and Guitar at pupils' residence.

Teaching engagements for Dances and Concerts.

Apply to—
E. J. LOPES,
On Hongkong Telegraph Office.
Hongkong, 2nd March, 1908. [26]

Mails.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR STEAMERS TO SAIL ON

LONDON, &c., via usual Ports ASSAYE Noon. { See Special Advertisement.
Capt. C. L. Daniel 9th Jan.

LONDON and ANTWERP via SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, PORT SAID, and MARSEILLES NILE About 15th Jan. { Freight and Passage.
Capt. E. P. Martin

SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE & MALTA About 16th Jan. { Freight and Passage.
Capt. H. Powell

For Further Particulars, apply to
E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.
Hongkong, 8th January, 1909. [4]

Intimations.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

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—will keep liquids

HOT OR COLD

For 24 Hours.

PINT SIZE. QUART SIZE.

\$14.00. \$20.00.

NO HEATING—NO CHEMICALS.

LEATHER CASES FOR BOTH SIZES.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO. [30]

Champagnes, Sherries, Marsals, Madeiras, Brandies, Ports, Gins, Whiskies, Burgundies, Vermouths, Hocks and Moselles, Bitters, Liqueurs, Ales, Beers and Stouts.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
15, Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 11th December, 1908. [31]

Hotels.

HOTEL PLEASANTON,

No. 17 Water Street, Yokohama.

FIRST CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL—Newly Opened and Furnished Suites or Single Rooms, Private Baths, Modern Sanitary Fittings, Electric Light, Up-to-date Appointments, Renowned Cuisine, Dark Room for Photographers. Charges Moderate.

HENRY LUTZ,
MANAGER.
Hongkong, 16th July, 1908. [28]

HOTEL CRAIGIEBURN,

PLUNKET'S GAP, THE BRAX, NEAR THE TRAIN TERMINUS Tel. 55.

For Terms, &c., apply to the
MANAGER.
Hongkong, 2nd July, 1908. [27]

Shipping—Steamers

HONGKONG, CANTON, MACAO

AND

WEST RIVER STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF

THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., AND THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.

S.S. "HONAM" 2,303 Tons, "FATSHAN" 2,260 Tons, "KINSHAN" 1,995 Tons, "HUNGSHAN" 1,998 Tons.

Departures from HONGKONG to CANTON daily at 8 A.M. (Sunday excepted), and 10 P.M. (Saturday excepted).

Departures from CANTON to HONGKONG daily at 8 A.M. and 5.15 P.M. (Sunday excepted). These Steamers, carrying His Majesty's Mails, are the largest and fastest on the River. Special attention is drawn to their Superior Saloon and Cabin Accommodation.

SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "SUI-TAI" 2,265 Tons and "SUI-AN" 1,265 Tons.

Departures from Hongkong to Macao on week days at 8 A.M. and at 2 P.M. from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf.

Departures from Macao to Hongkong on week days at 7.30 A.M. and at 2 P.M.

CANTON-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "HOI SANG."

Departures from MACAO to CANTON on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at 9 P.M. Departures from CANTON to MACAO on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 11 P.M.

JOINT SERVICE OF

HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD., AND THE INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

CANTON-WUCHOW LINE.

S.S. "SAINAM," 588 Tons, and "NANNING," 569 Tons.

One of the above steamers leaves Canton for Wuchow every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at about 8 A.M., and the other leaves Wuchow for Canton on the same days at 8.30 A.M. Round trips take about 5 days. These vessels have Superior Cabin Accommodation and are lighted throughout by electricity.

EXCURSION TO MACAO.

On SUNDAY, 10th January.

S.S. "SUI-AN"

will depart from the COMPANY'S WING LOK STREET WHARF, at 9 A.M.

Departure from Macao at 5 P.M.

Popular Excursion Rates as usual.

N.B.—The Company also runs a steamer from Macao on Sunday morning at 7.30 A.M. and from Hongkong at 1 P.M. from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf.

Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the—

HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LD.,
HOTEL MANSIONS, (FIRST FLOOR),
opposite the Hongkong Hotel. [3]

Hotels.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

FIRST CLASS AND UP-TO-DATE.

Military Band during dinner on Saturday Nights.

Hongkong, 21st June, 1907. A. F. DAVIES,
Manager. [16]

FOR

LUXURY AND COMFORT,

FRESHNESS AND EXCELLENT

CUISINE,

STAY AT—

THE GRAND CARLTON HOTEL.

Hongkong, 3th December, 1908. [29]

ASTOR HOUSE

(LATE CONNAUGHT HOTEL.)

QUEEN'S ROAD, HONGKONG.

CENTRALLY situated, up-to-date Hotel. Recently renovated, and under entirely new Management. Large and comfortable Rooms, Excellent Cuisine, under the supervision of an Experienced FRENCH CHEF, and separate Tables, Hot and Cold Baths, Electric Light throughout. Terms moderate. First Class accommodation for Families and Tourists.

Under Personal Supervision of

L. GAMEAU, Proprietor, N. BLUMENTHAL, Manager.

Telephone, 174. Telegrams "Astor."

Intimations.

Powell's

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

ARE
NOW SHOWING
the latest production
in British
CARPETS
in the
most exclusive
designs & colourings.

Jute Art Squares
for Bedrooms,
from \$9.50.

Kensington Art Squares,
in 3 sizes,
from \$18.75.

Kidderminster Squares,
all wool,
Special Thick
Quality;
3 by 4 yds. \$87.50
3½ by 4½ yds. \$50.00
4 by 5 yds. \$65.00

A Large Variety of Velvet Pile Squares,
from 9ft. by 6ft.
to 15ft. by 18ft.,
from \$35 to \$200.

Seamless Axminster Squares,
in Artistic Designs,
3 by 3 yds. 3 by 3½ yds.
3 by 4 yds. 3½ by 4½ yds.
4 by 5 yds. 5 by 6 yds.
from \$50 to \$275.

Hearthrugs
to match.

POWELL'S
Carpet Department,
First Floor,
ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 26th December, 1908.

Chinese Stowaways.

AUSTRALIAN RESTRICTION BILL.

TO DEFEAT THE EVIL.

L100 FINALLY FOR EACH OFFENDER.

Melbourne, 10th December.

In the House of Representatives this afternoon Mr. Batchelor (Minister for External Affairs) moved the second reading of the Immigration Restriction Bill, relating to stowaways. There was nothing to show, he said, whether there had been any reduction in the number of Asiatics in the Commonwealth since Federation. Monthly statistics were supplied from West Australia, and an increase was shown there. There were no means of forming an idea as to the other States. The bill aimed principally at stowaways. He was pretty sure a leakage existed in this direction. If it were certain that there was a leakage, it could be easily stopped. A great many apparently reliable persons believed that thousands of Chinese got into the Commonwealth by stowing away. He was going to discard all statements as to the companies being indemnified for the penalties, but when the business had reached such a stage that 20 could be brought out on one vessel it was certain it had been going on for some time. It could readily be believed that a great number of Chinese had eluded capture when this number was found at the last port of call. Searches were made at all the way ports. It would be impossible to keep a special staff of searchers at Port Darwin to thoroughly overhaul each vessel. Wonderful ingenuity was displayed in finding hiding places for stowaways. During the last month Chinese had been discovered stowed away at various Australian ports, hidden in all sorts of places. With regard to the 20 Chinese discovered in Sydney, there was thoroughly reliable information that there were 33 originally on the *Eastern*, so that 12 had got astray.

"I don't think this bill will help you much in catching these fellows," interposed Mr. Glynn (S.A.).

"You must do something," said Mr. Batchelor. "You must either let things go on, or you must engage a very large staff. I don't say that our staff is perfectly efficient. We must rely on our officers to do something."

"Can't you tap the evil at its source?" asked Mr. Willis (N.S.W.).

Mr. Batchelor: "We can't do anything at the other end. What status has the Commonwealth in Hongkong? It would be impossible to have a sufficient staff at Thursday Island, for example, to detect stowaways."

"My point," said Mr. Glynn, "is that you will have just as much difficulty in catching a man under this Act as you have to catch the prohibited immigrant."

"Someone must be made responsible," replied Mr. Batchelor. "The captain is in charge of the ship. He is responsible for what it brings to Australia. If he is engaged on a business which is in defiance of the law we must throw the responsibility on him. We don't expect personal knowledge on the part of the captain but we think that he should be responsible for what the ship contains. I don't say that the owners are in any way implicated in this thing." He quoted from the *Daily Telegraph* to show how the last Chinese were discovered. "It was obvious that the Chinese had daily hours of exercise. The aim of the bill was to impose some kind of penalty on the man who had absolute charge of the ship from the beginning. The people of Australia were determined that their laws should not be defied. The information which the Government held showed that a regular system of smuggling into Australia of prohibited immigrants was proceeding. Every Chinese landed in Australia was worth \$150, to be divided among those who assisted."

"As a fact, the captain of a ship doesn't know anything about this sort of business," remarked Mr. Bruce Smith.

"I believe that," said Mr. Batchelor, "nor do I think the chief officer knows anything about it."

"Oh, yes, he does," interjected a member. "The bill would at last," added Mr. Batchelor, "give the captain and owners an interest in seeing that these men were not on their ships. If something was not done, there would have to be a system of registration and passports, with periodical inspections, and the taking of finger prints, and so on."

Mr. Joseph Cook cordially supported the bill. He took it that the increase was not in consequence of the discovery of the 20 Chinese on the *Eastern* but that it was the result of a succession of incidents.

Mr. Watson: We suspected it all along. Mr. Cook said the difficulty with the bill was that it gave a captain a motive to smuggle Chinese ashore, instead of a motive to report cases. No provision was made for cases in which a stowaway might elude a captain, and be in the act of leaving the ship. The captain would then be liable. He assumed that special searches would only be made when the circumstances were peculiarly suspicious.

Mr. Batchelor: That is so. Mr. Cook: A provision should be inserted in the bill to give a master an opportunity of proving that he had done his best regarding the finding of stowaways. That would only be British justice.

Mr. Carr (N.S.W.) said that surely when a master found a stowaway on board he would expose him, and not take the risk of smuggling him ashore, as suggested by the leader of the Opposition. He was averse to any provision being inserted which would give an inducement to smuggle men ashore. The only way out was to cast upon the master and officers all the responsibility.

Dr. Liddell (N.S.W.) said one had only to go along the byways of Sydney and Melbourne to see almost daily aliens who were from their general appearance, newcomers. He was perfectly satisfied that these aliens could be kept out of the Commonwealth. They were able to keep rats out by taking special precautions. It

would be well if there was an Intelligence Department in foreign ports, who could inform the companies as to whether there were stowaways on board, and be paid for the information.

Mr. Speece (N.S.W.) thought it was patent that there had been neglect on the part of those responsible for the ship on which there were reported to have been 12 stowaways. He, too, favoured the establishment of a sort of secret service in alien ports.

Mr. Bruce Smith (N.S.W.) said, the most serious aspect of the question was that the Chinese who were smuggled in might spread disease. He suggested that the penalty for the discovery of stowaways should not be a fixed one, but should be set down as not to exceed a certain sum.

Mr. Willis (N.S.W.) also thought that if a master could make out a case which appealed to the magistrate he should not be fined the full amount.

Mr. Wilks (N.S.W.) said that he pointed out 12 months ago, that the staff of searchers was not large enough, and was not efficient. It was no use to send shoremen on board ship. They would not know the run of the vessel. The salary was not sufficient to attract the class of man needed for the work.

Dr. Maloney (Vic.) said that Sydney was always the chief port at which the Chinese gained entrance to the Commonwealth. The late Mr. Kingston had proved that conclusively, in a report made some time ago.

Mr. Deakin said that in the first years of Federation they had not been confronted with stowaways. Gradually the Customs service was improved; crevice after crevice had been closed up, but the methods for evading the officers had become ingenious. He hoped the Minister would not hesitate to take whatever administrative measures would cope with the evil. The House would, no doubt, support the appointment of any special officers. On the whole the officers had done remarkably well.

Sir John Quick suggested that the fine should be adjusted to the enormity of the offence. The officers who were responsible for the discovery of Chinese on the *Eastern* should be rewarded in some substantial manner.

Mr. Kelly (N.S.W.) suggested that the power to search vessels anywhere on the Australian coast might be abused. For instance, any person who might have a grudge against a company could lay an information that Chinese were secreted in the hold of the vessel. As a safeguard it would be as well to insert a clause in the bill to deal with persons who knowingly lodged incorrect information.

Mr. Batchelor, in reply, expressed gratification at the manner in which members had treated the measure.

The bill was read a second time.

Mr. Glynn, in Committee, urged that a lower minimum penalty should be provided.

Mr. Watson (N.S.W.) was against any reduction. It must have been known that those 20 Chinese were on board the *Eastern*. If there had been a penalty in existence, such as this bill provided, the officers would have taken care that those men would be found. If the penalty was reduced, the object of the bill would be defeated.

Mr. Hughes said the *Eastern* case must not be regarded as unique, or very unusual. It was only unusual that the Chinese were found. Had the law been in operation when the 20 were discovered the captain might have been fined £100 in each case. He could not have paid the fine, but the company would have been called upon for it.

Mr. Sampson (Vic.) moved an amendment that the "master, owners, agents, or charterers of vessels shall be liable."

This was carried on the votes.

Mr. Sampson (Vic.) moved that after the word "be," the words, "jointly and severally" be inserted.

This was also carried.

A proposal by Mr. Glynn (S.A.) that the penalty should be not less than £50, nor more than £100, for each stowaway, was rejected.

The sub-clause, as amended, reads:—

If any vessel having on board any stowaway, who is a prohibited immigrant, comes into any port in Australia, the master, owners, agents, or charterers of the vessel shall be jointly and severally liable, on summary conviction, to a penalty of £100 for each such stowaway.

On the motion of Mr. Roberts (S.A.), sub-clause 2 of clause 3 was amended to read:—

Every stowaway brought into any port on board a vessel shall be deemed to be a prohibited immigrant for the purposes of this section, unless it is proved that he has passed a dictation test, or that an officer has given him permission to land without restriction.

Mr. Kelly (N.S.W.) moved to have the words—

Whoever, by wilfully and falsely giving information to an officer, alleging the presence of stowaways, so as to cause a vessel to be detained in port, is guilty of an offence against this Act, and liable to a penalty of £100 added to the sub-clause dealing with the captain of the vessel moving his ship while under detention.

Mr. Batchelor said that if that was to be inserted it would close up all the avenues of information, which were mostly subterfuge. Of course information was passed on from one person to another before reaching the Customs Department, and the persons referred to could not guarantee that the information was correct.

Mr. Kelly: The Minister tells us that persons giving reliable information will be afraid to come forward. That is not what I am aiming at. Will they wilfully and falsely pay for unreliable information?

Mr. Batchelor: There never was unreliable information given.

Mr. Kelly: The Minister said previously he had to disregard information. After asking the Minister for the sources from which the information came and being refused, he withdrew the amendment.

The Bill then passed through its remaining stages.

Mr. Willis (N.S.W.) said, the most serious aspect of the question was that the Chinese who were smuggled in might spread disease. He suggested that the penalty for the discovery of stowaways should not be a fixed one, but should be set down as not to exceed a certain sum.

One of the proposals for increasing the precautions against Chinese stowaways being landed in Australia is to engage members of the Customs troops to assist in the search work. Mr. Batchelor is favourable to men from the garrison at Thursday Island—where a comparatively small Customs staff is employed—being authorised to search vessels arriving there. If the proposal were agreed to, he said, to-day, the troops would be paid the usual reward given to the Customs officers, or £5 for each alien stowaway discovered.

POSITION IN WEST AUSTRALIA.
Perth (W.A.), Dec. 10.—Referring to the Chinese influx at Tuesday night's meeting of the Fremantle A.N.A., the president urged that the Federal Government should, in its proposed bill, provide for the compulsory registration of Chinese.

The census of 1911 showed 1,406 Chinese in the State. A rough census taken during the present year showed an increase of 500 or 700, but the Customs office returns of arrivals and departures showed that from 1901 to the end of October, 1908, only 1,452 Chinese arrived, and 1,214 left the State. The increase should, therefore, be only 238.

In the House of Assembly to-night, Mr. Horan (Labour) referred to the fact that 4 Australians and 22 Italians had recently landed at Fremantle, and to the alien element in the Kurragang and Nallan strikes.

The minister said he did not propose to interfere with the Federal Government, by arguing the application of the language test to immigrants.

Intimations.

FOUND.

AT the Club Lusitano, on the 2nd inst., after the first performance of "The Gipsy" One GOLD LADY'S BRACELET, with Chinese Gold Coin pendant.

Owner can have same on application to—
THE SECRETARY,
Club Lusitano.

Hongkong, 5th January, 1909. [6]

LOST.

SILVER BUCKLE attached to coloured Belt. Peak Road. Reward, if delivered at the

GERMAN CONSULATE.
Hongkong, 7th January, 1909. [69]

DON'T BUY

ELSEWHERE BEFORE YOU CALL AT

FRENCH STORE
(Opposite ASTOR HOUSE)

NOW SHOWING

A Large and Fancy Assortment of
The Best FRENCH TOYS, DOLLS,
TOM SMITH'S CRACKERS,
CADBURY'S CHOCOLATE,
PERNOT BISCUITS
&c., &c., &c.

Hongkong, 21st November 1908. [4]

FABST BREWING COMPANY,
MILWAUKEE

FRESH SUPPLIES
ALWAYS KEPT IN STOCK

BY
SIEMSEN & Co.
Agents for
HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA.
Hongkong, 20th July, 1908. [100]

FURNITURE WAREHOUSE.

LI KWONG LOONG & CO.
司公隆廣李

CABINET-MAKERS AND ART DECORATORS,
from Shanghai, has re-opened their
FURNITURE STORE.

No. 39, DES VŒUX ROAD CENTRAL.
The only Shop in Hongkong with this name.

WHERE HIGH-CLASS FURNITURE
of every description can be made to order in any design required.

Have been patronised by the Hongkong Club, Hongkong Hotel, Telegraph Co., Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Firms and other leading Establishments in the Colony, to whom reference can be made as to the Superior Workmanship and Materials of the Furniture, &c., supplied.

Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., write as follows:—

"We have pleasure in stating that Mr. LI KWONG LOONG furnished the Annexe to our Dispensary and gave us every satisfaction."

(Sd.) A. S. Watson & Co.

ORDERS punctually attended to, and CHARGES most moderate.
AN INSPECTION INVITED.
Hongkong, 6th August, 1908. [44]

Intimations.



TONIC, RESTORATIVE, DIGESTIVE WINE
Very palatable.

Known throughout the world and prescribed in all cases of Anemia, Debility and Convalescence, to young women, children and the aged. Invaluable in hot climates.

DOSE: One wine-glass after the two principal meals.
Each bottle of genuine VIN SAINT-RAPHAEL bears, in addition to the registered trade-mark:

(1) THE WARRANTY STAMP OF THE UNION DES FABRICANTS.
(2) A METAL SEAL advertising CLETEAS.

CLETEAS is a MELISSA and MINT cordial which surpasses all others by its purity and faultless preparation. To be taken on a lump of sugar.
COMPAGNIE DU VIN SAINT-RAPHAEL, Valence (Drôme) France.
SOLE AGENTS: MESSRS. J. & F. CO., HONGKONG.

Telegrams: "Cyclometer."

Telephones: 482.

WE SELL,

HIRE,

and Re-BUILD

MOTOR CARS, BOATS, LAUNCHES.

TYPEWRITERS.

DEPOT—KOWLOON.

DRAGON CYCLE DEPOT,
HEAD OFFICE and SHOW ROOMS,
33-35, Des Vœux Road, Central,
Hongkong. [41]

Consignees.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamer

"NYANZA"
FROM ANTWERP, LONDON, MALTA, PORT SAID, SUEZ AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark, and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before 6 hours.

Goods not cleared by the 13th instant, at 4 P.M., will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

Damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignee's and the Company's representative at an appointed hour.

All claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognised.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns.

E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1909. [4]

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship

"FOOKSANG"
having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo, impeding the discharge or remaining on board after 4 P.M. the 9th inst., will be landed at Consignee's risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., General Managers.

Hongkong, 7th January, 1909. [6]

Consignees.

S.S. "SYDNEY."

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from London ex *S.S. Modoc*, and from Bordeaux ex *S.S. Moril*, in connection with above Steamer are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables are being landed and stored at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on unless intimation is received from the Consignees before 3 P.M., TO-DAY, requesting it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned. Goods remaining unclaimed after MONDAY, the 11th January, at Noon, will be subject to rent and landing charges.

All claims must be sent in to me on or before the 11th January, or they will not be recognised.

All damaged packages will be examined on MONDAY, the 11th January, at 3 P.M. No Fire Insurance has been effected.

P. NALIN,
Acting Agent.
Hongkong, 4th January, 1909. [9]

BANK-LINE, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP "INVERIC,"
FROM TACOMA, VICTORIA, YOKO-
HAMA, KOBE, MOJI AND
MANILA.

THE above Steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignee's risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,
Agents.
Hongkong, 5th January, 1909. [10]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamer

"DELHI"
FROM BOMBAY, COLOMBO AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark, and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

This vessel brings Cargo:—
From Persia, Gulf, A.S.N. and B. & P. S. N. Co.'s Steamer.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before 6 hours.

Goods not cleared by the 13th instant, at 4 P.M., will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

Damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignee's and the Company's representative at an appointed hour.

All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognised.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns.

E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 7th January, 1909. [4]

NORDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Steamship

"PRINZ SIGISMUND,"
having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, at Kowloon, and West Point Godown, whence delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 7th of January, will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 14th of January, at 9 A.M.

All Claims must be sent in before the 14th of January, 1909, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned.

NORDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.

HONGKONG, 7th January, 1909. [4]

Intimation.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

HIGH-CLASS CONFECTIONERY.

We have just unpacked our NEW SEASON'S CONFECTIONERY imported from the leading London, Parisian and American Houses.

CADBURY'S CHOCOLATES.

IN FANCY BOXES.

CHOCOLATE ALMONDS, CHOCOLATE WALNUTS, CHOCOLATE DE LA REINE, VIENNA CHOCOLATE and others, in Great Variety.

FULLER'S CONFECTIONERY.

COCOANUT TAFFY, ALMOND TAFFY, CREME APRICOTS, SUCRE DE LA CREME CARAMELS, PEPPERMINT LUMPS, MARSHMALLOW BALLS, &c., &c., &c.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,

LIMITED.

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS

AND

KOWLOON DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 5th January, 1909.

NOTICE.

All communications intended for publication in "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to The Editor, 1, Ice House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.

Ordinary business communications should be addressed to The Manager. The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MS., nor to return any Contribution.

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BIRTHS.

On January 1, 1909, at Shanghai, the wife of E. F. BOLTCH, of a son.
On January 1, 1909, at Shanghai, the wife of A. G. HICKMOTT, of a daughter.
On January 4, 1909, at Shanghai, the wife of D. MACLENNAN, of a daughter.

DEATH.

On January 1, 1909, at Shanghai, WESTON O'BRIEN HARDING, B.A., age 27.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1909.

RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

Attention is now being paid in the North to the progress of the railway enterprise, which is going to link up the provinces of China and eventually may afford a direct route through Asia and Europe. The Shanghai Times, dealing with this subject, remarks that negotiations which are going on in Peking at present, concerning the loan for the construction of the Canton-Hankow Railway, call attention to the great importance which is now being attached by the Chinese Government to the connecting of the scattered parts of the Empire by means of Railways. Much has already been done on this line. A good trunk line connects the two important commercial centres of Tientsin and Hankow, from this line a branch goes out to Tai-yuen-fu, the capital of Shanxi Province, and another to Kai-feng-fu, the capital of Honan Province. If the present plans are carried into operation, this line will also have a branch leading from Sinyang to the far western Province of Szechuen, and another running east from this place through the northern part of Anhui Province to Peking, on the bank of

the river north of Nanjing. A line from Tientsin to Peking is also under construction, and one from Shanghai to Hangchow. The difficulties of the Canton-Hankow Railway have been many. Under the contract with the American China Development Company it was found impossible to carry on the work of construction, and the concession granted to that Company was redeemed by China, largely under the leadership of H.E. Chang Chih-tung, at that time Viceroy at Wuchang. An order to redeem the line, a loan was effected from the Hongkong Government. The matter of raising capital from Chinese sources was entered into with great spirit both by the people of Canton and Hunan Provinces. Nothing has been done in Hunan Province up to the present; and unfortunately in Canton there has been too much discussion between the Provincial authorities and the shareholders that little has been accomplished, although recently, under the leadership of Sir Cheentung Liang Cheng, better conditions have prevailed. Since the redemption of this line it has been almost certain that it would be necessary to borrow foreign capital in order to complete the work, for it proved an impossibility for the gentry of the three Provinces concerned to come to a common understanding. With the original loan borrowed from British sources it has been only natural that the Government should turn to the same sources for the additional funds necessary to complete the line. If the loan is finally completed, the following Chinese Railways will be in debt to British bondholders—the Peking-Newchwang line; Shanghai-Nanking line; one-half of the Tientsin-Pukow line; Shanghai-Hangchow-Ningpo line; and Canton-Kowloon line. The advantages of effecting foreign loans for the construction of railways was severely criticised for several years, but the present policy of the Government seems to favour this course. The policy of the former Director-General of Railways, H.E. Sheng Kung Pao, was fiercely attacked both by high officials and the gentry, but time has brought about its own justification. When money can be borrowed from foreign sources at 4 or 5%, it does not seem a wise thing to divert Chinese capital which can earn 10% or 12% away from such enterprises to less profitable ones. The only thing to have been feared in this connection from the outset was political influence, and the plan followed at that time of dividing the loans between various nations was fully adequate to protect Chinese interests. Whether these interests are now being fully protected by giving such a large proportion of the new loans to one nation may be open to doubt.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The French mail of the 8th December was delivered in London on the 7th inst.

MONSIEUR C. V. E. BAPT, French Minister in Peking, has been appointed to the Foreign Office in Paris.

It is stated from Moukden that the Manchurian House Hotel, owned by Mr. H. Fuchs, has been completely destroyed by fire.

SILVER and copper coins bearing date of the first year of Hsuan Tung have been mined, and these will be issued for currency, very shortly.

A RELIEF fund for the sufferers by the Italian earthquake has been opened at the Italian Bank at Shanghai. The members of the Consular Body have sent messages of sympathy to the Italian Consul.

GON PAH and So Ho, two Chinese opium smokers at Manila, were on 4th inst. adjudged guilty of "hitting the pipe" and given six months imprisonment each and ordered to pay a fine of P200 each.

The Chinese Engineering and Mining Company's total output of the Company's three mines for the week ended Dec. 9, amounted to 26,039.7 tons and the sales during the period to 23,057.10 tons.

In the Police Court, this morning, Chan Shui, an unemployed coolie, was charged with robbing one Kwok Mi Yung and Fan Chun of money, goods and chattels at No. 17, Bulkeley Street, Hunghom, yesterday. The case was remanded.

The Peak murder trial was concluded at the Criminal Sessions late yesterday afternoon. About five o'clock the jury retired to consider their verdict, returning into Court fourteen minutes afterwards. They found the first prisoner not guilty, and the second and third guilty of manslaughter.

The *Mishima-maru*, a new steamer built at the Kawasaki Dockyard to the order of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, made an official trial trip on the 26th ultimo between Akashi and Osaka. The result was satisfactory, the vessel developing an average speed of 16.56 knots an hour, against a contracted speed of 15.25 knots.

The *ss. Maria* sailed from Dalny on December 21st with nearly 10,000 tons of Manchurian beans, insurance on which is covered by the London underwriters. At the request of the Agents of Lloyd's, Messrs. Holmes, Ringer and Co., Capt. Matsuo, of the Marine Bureau, made the required inspection and signed the certificate of survey. Mention may also be made of a probable further export of beans by the *ss. Danmaborn* now in the port.

The "Fatsan" Incident.

LETTER BY NATIVE PRESS SOCIETY.

THREATENED PROTEST AGAINST
PORTUGUESE CONSUL.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 7th January.
This morning, the native paper *Kwok See Po* published a letter which was addressed to the Portuguese Consul at Canton by the Native Press Society, asking him to reply to it within three days' time, giving satisfactory explanations as to his complaint against the native papers in their report regarding the *Fatsan* case. It is stated in the letter that should the Consul fail to give a reply within the limited time, the Press Society will take steps to protest against him.

DROWNING OF A CAPTAIN.

A TRAGEDY AT SEA.

Yesterday morning, 20th ult., it was learned that Captain Wegmann, of the P. & A. steamer *Nicomedia*, had been drowned shortly before the vessel entered the Straits of Shimoda. Full details of the occurrence are not yet to hand, but it appears that shortly before his disappearance the Captain was seen standing by the side of the vessel below the bridge, and as a high sea was running at the time, it is surmised that he fell overboard when the steamer gave a sudden roll. As soon as his disappearance was discovered the vessel was turned round and a search made in the hope of finding him, but without success. What renders the event all the more sad is that Captain Wegmann expected to have his wife out here shortly. *Japan Chronicle*.

JAPANESE SUGAR REFINING COMPANY.

REPUTED ASSURANCE BY THE
MITSU BISHI.

The *Osaka Jiji* remarks that the position of the Dai Nippon Sugar Refining Company has constantly elicited public comment and produced a feeling of insecurity among those concerned. This state of things is ascribed by some shareholders to a want of proper care on the part of the directors. Our contemporary says that since the latter part of last year, the company has been receiving financial assistance from the Mitsui Bishi Company, and the funds so advanced have now reached about ¥1,000,000. The attention directed to the management of the company by the Mitsui Bishi has now become very marked. At the general meeting of the company held in November, the Mitsui Bishi transferred Mr. Tsunekawa, who represents its interests, from the post of auditor to that of a director, filling the vacancy so caused by appointing Mr. Shioda, another of its representatives, as auditor. In this way the Mitsui Bishi has been gradually extending its influence over the sugar-refining company, and has now begun buying up shares. The move was begun by the purchase of 2,000 shares through Mr. Fukushima Mamoru, a broker, 700 shares being subsequently bought in the name of Mr. Kakumoto, the chief accountant of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, 300 in the name of the son of Mr. Kondo, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and 2,000 shares in the name of Mr. Saio, of the Mitsui Bishi Bank. When the shares purchased in the names of others are added, the total already will be not less than 10,000. It is generally believed, says the *Jiji*, that the Mitsui Bishi will bring the sugar-refining company under its control as soon as the question of the reimbursement of duty on crude sugar is settled. When control is obtained, sweeping reforms will be introduced. *Japan Chronicle*.

A NAGASAKI dispatch announces the dismissal by the Nagasaki Appeal Court on the 28th inst. of the protest lodged by the Russian Consul at Nagasaki, on behalf of the Russian Harbour Office at Vladivostok, against the sale by public auction of the Russian steamer *Amur* and *Dnieper*, which were seized at Nagasaki for the settlement of a claim for coal supplied by the Kitagata Colliery and other Japanese concerns. The Russian Consul claimed that he had a prior right on the steamers.

The *Japan Chronicle* learns that M. Adolphe Gysip has been successful in arranging for a further sum of ¥1,000,000 to be advanced to the Kanagafuchi Cotton Spinning Co., from the same bank and on the same terms as the last loan. Moreover, a syndicate has been at the same time formed in Paris for dealing in the shares of the Kanagafuchi, and as soon as the documents of the new loan are signed the syndicate will begin by purchasing 3,000 of the new shares. The fact that a new loan for a million yen has been arranged so soon after the first is evidence of renewed confidence in the position of the company on the part of the French financiers concerned.

We are requested by the Rev. Father G. M. Spade to state that next week, the Catholic Bishops of South China—the Rt. Rev. F. Masot of Foochow, J. Clements of Amoy, J. Lavest of Kwangsi, J. Marel of Canton and D. D. Pexson of Hongkong—with their respective theologians, will meet at the Mitsui House, Causeway, to hold a synod to discuss matters pertaining to the administration of their missions. Monsignor Lavest, being indisposed, will be represented by his delegate the Very Rev. Father C. L. Harwood. The formal opening of the synod will take place on Sunday next at 8 o'clock, when a solemn Pontifical Mass will be celebrated at the Catholic Cathedral by one of the Bishops with the assistance of all the other dignitaries and the clergy, to which function all Catholics are invited to attend.

CANTON BAY BY DAY.

CHINA NAVY.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 7th January.
Taoist Shum Yun Hing, a member of the Board of War, who is now on a commission to inspect the Naval forces in the various provinces, arrived here on the 3rd inst. on board the gunboat *Po Pih*. To start with his duty, here Taoist Shum will proceed to Whampoa to visit the Military establishments and test the mines there.

PROPOSED MARI.

Certain well-to-do people are of the opinion to select a suitable site on the coast in the district of Henoghan and turn it into a mart following the example of the Kuang Yick-Mart in the Sunning district.

SUPPRESSION OF OPIUM-SMOKING.

The Viceroy has appointed Taoist Hui Kok to be Inspector of the Government Anti-Opium Bureau and to act in co-operation with the Taoist of Constabulary in the suppression of opium-smoking in Canton.

MEDICAL COLLEGES FOR CANTON.

In the first month of the next Chinese year, there will be two private medical colleges opened in this city, one of which is to be organised under the medical practitioners. Students will be selected to enter these colleges to be trained in medicine on Western lines.

TRIOUBLE WITH PAWN-BROKERS.

As the officials forced the pawn-brokers in this city to use the pawn-ticket forms manufactured by the Government Paper Factory, the pawn-brokers are now determined to go on strike shortly, if their petition is not satisfactorily considered.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

It was H.E. Chang Chih Tung's intention to personally proceed to the South about the 11th inst. to make an investigation into the progress of the construction of the Canton-Hankow Railway and to settle the differences between the directors of the railway in Canton and the shareholders. His Excellency would not have failed to carry out his proposal, had not the death of the late Emperor Kuang Hui taken place in the preceding moon. H.E. Chang Chih Tung is now busy engaged in State affairs and he will not be able to leave the Capital for some time to come to proceed to Canton to further matters in connection with the railway. However, H.E. Chang Chih Tung the other day gave telegraphic instructions to the Canton Viceroy requesting him to privately inquire occasionally into matters concerning the Canton-Hankow Railway on his behalf and to report the results to him for his information.

AN ALLEGED IMPOSTOR.

The monk who was arrested in Fatsan some time ago for creating disturbances, thereby destroying the Police station there, has been tried several times at the Nambai Magistrate's court at each of these trials he persisted in refusing to give a reply to any questions put to him, and he even remained obstinate when he received strokes with the bamboo. As there is not sufficient proof to justify punishment for the alleged offender, the Nambai Magistrate has decided to send him back to Hankow to be dealt with by the local officials there as he is a member of the Kam Lo monastery at Hankow.

WEST RIVER PATROL.

Admiral Li Chun has placed an order with Messrs. Bailey & Co. for the building of a shallow draft motor-launch for a sum of \$7,800, for the more effectual patrolling of the waterway.

THE OPIUM CONFERENCE.

The representative of the American Government nominated to the forthcoming International Opium Conference at Shanghai on the 1st February arrived here last week and was invited by the committee of the Canton Anti-Opium Association on the 6th inst. to deliver a lecture on the subject of the evil at the Association's headquarters, where there was a large attendance. A warm reception was accorded the American visitor by the members of the Association. He made a speech on the subject of opium which was listened to with considerable interest by those present. The speaker was earnestly requested by the members of the Association to appeal to his Home Government to send doctors to China to assist the Empire in the suppression of opium-smoking, and he promised to do his best to comply with the request. On the 7th inst. he gave a lecture on the same subject at the American Hospital.

Our correspondent evidently refers to the Rev. E. W. Thwing's lecture. Mr. Thwing is incorrectly spoken of in the "American representative" to the Conference.—*ED. H.K.T.*

JAPAN'S TRADE FOR 1908.

A HEAVY DECLINE.

In a brief review of the foreign trade of the Empire for the year just closed, the *Osaka Mainichi* says that owing to the financial depression prevailing throughout the world, the foreign trade of all countries has shown a decrease more or less. The financial crisis and the Presidential election in the United States; the boycott of Japanese goods in South China; and the death of the Emperor and Empress Dowager of China have seriously affected the foreign trade of Japan. The value of the trade for the last ten days of the year is not yet known, but assuming it to be 80 per cent. of the figures for the preceding ten days, the total value of exports this year will amount to ¥50,400,000, and that of imports to ¥45,750,000, showing an excess of ¥4,650,000 in imports over exports. Compared with last year the exports showed a decrease of ¥9,000,000, and the imports of ¥1,777,000, or an aggregate decrease in the total trade of ¥1,880,000. *Japan Chronicle*.

Opium Suppression.

"A CLAP OF THUNDER AND A HIGH WIND."

POPPEY CULTIVATION IN KANSU AND KIANGSI.

The following is a translation of a memorial presented by Tai Po, Tartar General of Ning-hsin, on the subject of the suppression of opium. This significant document appeared in the *Official Gazette* of December 17, 1908.

"We have received repeated instructions that if we do not exert ourselves in the matter of the suppression of opium we cannot wash away the country's shame, increase the nation's power, or guard against future calamity. The consequences involved are great and this cannot be carried on in the usual way of conducting official business, i.e., "complying in the light and disobeying in the dark." We formerly received the dispatch of the Commission for the Suppression of Opium, ordering us within two months to send a list of the officers and soldiers in the Tartar city of Ning-hsin who were addicted to the use of opium. Now the opium smokers in the Tartar garrison are very many, more than fifty or sixty per cent. We ask for an extension of the time so that after making a strict investigation of the matter a list of those who truly cannot break off the opium habit may be sent in.

"We wish to act honestly without pretence. In this matter of prohibiting opium and getting rid of the opium craving, if a suitable remedy is not provided by which the disease may be cured, they will only regard the order to break off opium as 'a clap of thunder and a high wind' and the opium smokers will merely band together to hoodwink their inferiors. If this is simply to depend on the eyes and ears of one or two men, there can be no proper investigation as to whether opium-taking has been suppressed or not."

"The gradual suppression of the growth of opium yearly for ten years, to be reported on by the official of every province will be a matter of official routine."

"Yesterday we had the statistics of the Board of Revenue on the production and consumption of opium for three years. In this report it is stated that the consumption of opium in the province of Kansu in the 33rd year of Kuang Hui was only forty-five piculs; then it is evident that the local officials are acting sincerely and that both the smoking and cultivation of opium has been diminishing during the three years, as prescribed in the rules for gradually reducing the amount during a period of ten years. But the officials sent by the Board of Revenue to investigate Kansu province arrived at Ninghsia in the middle of the 8th moon. At that time the opium had been all gathered and there was no other source of information but the statements of the local officials and the tax collector's statistics, which are in no sense to be regarded as sufficient proof. Only in the Tartar city of Ninghsia, a supply of less than 200,000 oz. per year is insufficient to meet the demands of the smokers. Forty-five piculs would be 72,000 oz., which trifling amount would be insufficient for the one Tartar city. Who is cheated by, saying that the whole province consumes only this amount? If the Board of Revenue only relies on this statement to say that the number of smokers has decreased, it appears evident that in a few years the deep-seated disease will be eradicated."

"But if the Court regards this talk as true, at the end of the ten years the injury will be indescribable."

"Another case Tehuashien in Kiangsi. The report says that the annual production is 600 oz. Now the better class of land produces about 200 oz. a mow. If the report is correct, Tehuashien has only three or four mow under cultivation of opium. The mere casual traveller could not believe that. Since Kansu and Kiangsi are treated thus, we may realize the extent of the humbug in regard to the other provinces."

The remainder of the memorial describes a method of treatment devised by Chao Kuochin of Shantung, which the General proposes to use in the compulsory treatment of the opium smokers of the Tartar city of Ninghsia, and closes with the proposal that the cultivation of the poppy be absolutely prohibited next year, since the returns for the gradual reduction of the cultivation are proved to be so unreliable.

AN ALLEGED LIBEL.

ORDER FOR INTERIM INJUNCTION GRANTED.

In the Supreme Court, this morning, the Chief Justice (Sir Francis Pigott) presiding, Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. O. D. Thomson, moved, on behalf of Chan Kung Yui and Chan Yu Shi for the granting of an interim injunction pending an action for alleged libel to restrain Lam Kok Sang, his agents or servants from printing, publishing or selling a book called *Chan Fong Po*.

Sir Henry Berkeley stated that Mr. Chan Kung Yui was a married man. The cause for the motion to grant the order was a certain publication in the Colony which published the names, accomplishments, etc., of Chinese women of doubtful character. The book, Counsel stated, further contained portraits of the persons mentioned in the letter press. A portrait of the plaintiff's wife was to be found among one of these. A more terrible or grosser libel, Sir Henry emphatically declared, it would be impossible to conceive than polluting the woman in such an almshouse as an almshouse of the prostitutes of the Colony. Counsel was aware of the fact that the Court would only grant an injunction in cases of libel where the injury was serious, but then, Sir Henry argued, nothing could be more serious than the alleged libel against the publisher of the book in question.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

CHINESE POSTAL RIGHTS.

PROPOSED RECOVERY.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 6th January.

The Ministry of Posts and Communications is determined to recover China's Postal rights after China New Year.

YUAN SHIH-KAI.

REPORTED QUITE WELL.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 7th January.

On the 5th inst., a certain foreign Minister (Mr. Hui) returned to Peking by train.

At the railway station he met Yuan Shih-kai and observed that His Excellency was going about as usual without exhibiting any signs of a bad foot.

A DAMAGING MEMORIAL.

HIGH OFFICIALS IMPEACHED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 7th January.

In Kong Chun-lun's memorial denouncing Yuan Shih-kai, he implicated Prince Ching, Yeung Shi-chang, Hsu Shi-chang, two vice-presidents of Ministries, and a certain Governor.

YUAN SHIH-KAI.

REFUSED TO RECEIVE VISITORS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 7th January.

After his retirement Yuan Shih-kai refused to receive any visitors except Prince Ching and Prince Ching's son.

MINISTRY OF POSTS.

PRESIDENT CHAN DENOUNCED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 7th January.

A certain censor has denounced H.E. Chan Pih, president of the Ministry of Posts and Communications.

WAI WU PU.

THE PRESIDENT'S APPOINTMENT.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 7th January.

It was on the recommendation of Grand Councillors Chang Chih-tung and Na Tung that Liang Tun-yen was promoted to the post of president of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

H. E. LIANG TUN-YEN.

His Excellency Liang Tun-yen, who now succeeds to the important position of Acting-President of the Wai Wu Pu, has risen very rapidly during the last five years. He is one of the band of Chinese students who spent several years in the United States under the supervision of Dr. Yang Weng. After his return to China Mr. Liang was given a subordinate position in an office where his knowledge of the English language was of service and he commenced his career in China after his several years' study abroad on the magnificent salary of Tls. 8 per mensem. While H. E. Chang Chih-tung was Viceroy of the Canton provinces he secured the services of Mr. Liang as his interpreter and translator. Mr. Liang remained in this service as long as His Excellency Chang Chih-tung was in Canton and followed him when he was transferred to become Viceroy at Wuchang. Here he remained many years and became well-known to the members of the Consular staffs of various nations as well as to the foreign residents of Hankow. He continued his Chinese studies very diligently and became proficient in them. When H.E. Chang Chih-tung was called to Peking and H. E. Tuan Yang was Acting-Viceroy at Wuchang, Mr. Liang was recommended to go to Peking for Imperial audience and since that time his promotion has been very rapid. He filled the position of Customs Tao-tai at Tientsin, was sent to Kiangsi Province after the Nanchang Missionary troubles, was later appointed Provincial Treasurer at Kiangsi and has been all through the various grades in the Board of Foreign Affairs till he became Vice-President, and now on the retirement of his former chief, becomes Acting-President of the important Board. In his new position he takes precedence over the presidents of all other boards and next to the Grand Councillors is one of the most important men in the Government. His Excellency Liang is a man of quiet kindly temperament and is very popular with all who know him. He lately passed through Shanghai on his way to Amoy to welcome the American Fleet and from Amoy proceeded to take home in Canton on a short leave from which he was recalled upon the death of his mother and returned hastily to Peking. His many friends among all nationalities will wish him continued success in his new position and will be certain that his hopes will not be disappointed.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

PRINCE CHING.

REFUSES VISIT OF INQUIRY.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po"]

Peking, 7th January.

The Prince Regent directed the Grand Councilors to proceed and inquire after Prince Ching's health.

His Highness, however, declined to receive them.

YEUNG SHI-CHANG.

DECLINES HONOUR OF YUAN SHI-KAI'S VISIT.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po"]

Peking, 7th January.

On the 3rd inst., Yuan Shi-kai proceeded to Tientsin to confer with Viceroy Yeung Shi-chang, but the latter declined to receive the ex-Grand-Councillor.

Whereupon Yuan Shi-kai hastened back to Peking.

RESIGNATION.

YUAN SHI-KAI'S SON QUILTS OFFICE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po"]

Peking, 7th January.

In consequence of the retirement of his father (Yuan Shi-kai), Yuan Hsi-tung tendered his resignation from one of the secretariats of the Ministry of Industry, Agriculture and Commerce.

It is reported that he did so on a hint being given him by a certain Prince.

TANG SHAO-YI IN AMERICA.

THE LATE EMPEROR'S MESSAGE.

Washington, December 2.

"Long may your excellency enjoy good health and happiness; may the American people be ever blessed with prosperity and peace; these are our heartfelt wishes."

These are the sentiments expressed in the concluding sentence of the letter from the late Emperor of China to the President, handed him to-day by Tang Shao Yi, the special Chinese Ambassador, thanking the United States Government for the remission of \$14,000,000 of the indemnity guaranteed by China for damages resulting from the Boxer rebellion.

The presentation of the letter took place in the blue parlor of the White House at 2.30 o'clock this afternoon. Tang, who was accompanied to the White House by Prince Tsi Fu, as first secretary, and a dozen other members of his suite, was introduced to the President by Acting Secretary Adee of the State Department, in the absence of Mr. Root, who was confined to his home by indisposition. The letter from the late Emperor was as follows:

"The Emperor of China to the President of the United States of America, greeting."

"Mr. President: China has always maintained the most friendly relations with the United States since the establishment of intercourse between the two countries. By taking the initiative in proposing remission of a portion of the indemnity as provided by treaty, your excellency has won the respect of mankind for magnanimity and just dealing. Furthermore, the Congress has given signal proof of friendliness by giving effect to your excellency's recommendations. In sincere recognition of this generous action, we hereby appoint Tang Shao Yi, an official with the rank of President of a Ministry and Governor of the province of Fung Tien, as special Ambassador to proceed to the United States for the purpose of presenting this our letter. We have always placed entire confidence in his eminent ability, clear perception and sterling integrity. We have specially commended him, in the discharge of his duties, to convey to your excellency the expression of our grateful thanks and testify to our lasting friendship. It is our hope that the relations of the two countries will be further strengthened by mutual confidence. Long may your excellency enjoy good health and happiness; may the American people be ever blessed with prosperity and peace. These are our heartfelt wishes."

"Given on the 23th day of the eighth moon in the thirty-fourth year of Kwang Hsu (September 19, 1908)."

In presenting the letter Ambassador Tang recalled that it was the last message addressed by his late majesty to the President and said every line of it breathes friendship and good will for the Government and people of the United States and voices the sentiments of all China.

The President replied briefly, saying in conclusion: "I ask you to express to your august sovereign and to the Chinese Government my appreciation and that of the Government and people of the United States of the sending of this special Ambassador, which so fully signifies a final manifestation of the sincere confidence, good will and friendship between the United States and the Chinese Empire, which it is a cherished aim of this Government to foster for all time."

S.S. "FOOKSANG."

EXPERIENCES DIRTY WEATHER.

The Indo-China Steam Navigation Company's s.s. *Fooksang*, which arrived in port yesterday, reports that from Singapore, she experienced light to moderate north and north-easterly winds with slight swell till the parallel of 10° N. and 110° E. was reached. Here, a low area pressure was crossed, the wind commencing at west and west-north-west, and veering to north-east and setting in south-south-east; all the time, she was accompanied by a high confused sea. From 14° W. and 175° E., light, variable air and calms with smooth sea were met with and carried the vessel to within thirty miles of Gap Rock, when thick, foggy weather set in, with moderate to fresh north-easterly wind, which continued to port.

THE POSITION IN PEKING.

CONSULTATION OF FOREIGN MINISTERS.

[N. C. D. News.]

Peking, Jan. 4.

H.E. van Shih-kai visited Tientsin yesterday and returned in the evening. He is expected to leave Peking within a few days. The outlook is unsettled. Official business is practically at a standstill. At a meeting of eight foreign Ministers it was decided to request their respective Governments to make separate representations on the situation, but not on the reinstatement of Yuan Shi-kai. The appointment of Liang Tzu-yen to the Waiwupu is considered temporary.

[Der Ostasiatische Lloyd.]

Peking, January 3.

The downfall of Yuan Shi-kai is the consequence partly of his taking part in the coup d'état of 1898, which has not been forgotten by the Prince Regent, who has always been intimately connected with his brother, the late Emperor Kuang Hsi, and the rumours about his actions in doing away with the Emperor Kuang Hsi, when the death of the Empress Dowager was imminent, and partly by reason of machinations of the Manchus party. The latter caused at first some apprehension that a change of system would take place and that reaction would get the upper hand. This fear has, however, partly been removed by the appointment of Liang Tzu-yen to succeed Yuan Shi-kai in the Waiwupu. There are many indications that, only the removal of Yuan Shi-kai himself is intended.

Peking, January 4.

It becomes known that the edict ordering the removal of Yuan Shi-kai must to a certain degree be traced to Chang Chih-tung, who has always been jealous of the former successes of Yuan, and who entertained apprehensions that Yuan would one day thwart his (Chang's) plans. It is expected that Prince Su, the President of the Board of Interior, will be removed for the same reasons from Peking within the near future and that he will probably be sent with a special mission to Tibet.

The Chinese emphatically assert that Yuan Shi-kai left Peking last for Tientsin, travelling incognito. It is believed that he will not go to Hooan.

It is expected here that a change will take place in the next few days in the posts of the Viceroy at Canton, Tientsin and Mukden, in all of which positions of Yuan Shi-kai are in power.

It is believed that Viceroy Hsi Liang of the Yankwei will be appointed Viceroy of Chihli.

There is a possibility that the definite successor of Yuan Shi-kai in the Waiwupu will not be Liang Tzu-yen but Lu Hsi-huan, the present Director-General of the Peking-Tientsin Railway.

The position of Chen-pi also, President of the Board of Communications, is believed to be shaken and as his successor Tsen Chun-hsian is mentioned.

CRICKET.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

"A" Team v. Police.

The following have been selected to play for the "A" team in the above match on the latter's ground to-morrow afternoon, commencing at 2.15 p.m.:—Messrs. W. C. D. Turner, A. E. Lanning, H. R. Makin, E. A. Fowler, A. Mackenzie, A. P. Dashwood, E. H. Hindle, E. Irving, W. Waterhouse, L. H. W. Green, and L. D. K. Anderson (The Buffs).

"B" Team v. Craigengower.

The "B" team will be represented by the following on the home ground to-morrow afternoon, commencing at 2.15 p.m.:—Messrs. R. Hancock, T. E. Pearce, F. H. H. Stevens, A. O. Lang, H. D. Sharpe, S. C. Logan, W. E. L. Shepton, Capt. H. C. Baird, (The Buffs) Lt. J. S. Sill (The Buffs) and Capt. S. Robinson R.M.

H. K. C. C. "B" v. CRAIGENGOWER C. C.

The above league match will take place on the former Club's ground on Saturday at 2 o'clock p.m. Craigengower team:—E. Lammert (capt.), G. A. Hancock, A. O. Braw, R. Basso, H. L. Anderson, W. H. Vivian, R. Pestonji, A. Osman, J. D. Noris, J. D. Kinnaird and L. A. Rose.

LEAGUE TABLE.

The following is the League table up to date:

Club	P.	W.	L.	D.	P.	Per cent.
H. K. C. C.	5	0	0	0	100	
Civil Service	7	5	1	1	66.66	
Telegraphs	6	4	1	1	60	
Hongkong "A"	5	2	2	1	33.33	
Craigengower	7	2	2	0		
R. G. A.	4	1	3	1	33.33	
H. K. Police	5	1	4	0	60	
Kowloon	6	1	5	0	66.66	
Royal Engineers	7	1	6	0	71.42	
N. B. A. win counts 1 point						
A loss						
A draw						

COLLISION NEAR CHINKIANG.

RIVER STEAMERS DAMAGED.

On Tuesday afternoon, as reported in our special Shanghai telegram, a collision between the Nishin Kien Kaishu steamer *Tachang Maru* and the Chinese steamer *Singlet*, took place in Silver Island Pass, near Chinkiang as a result of which both vessels were damaged, and had to be beached. The *Tachang Maru* was bound up river from Shanghai and was overtaken by the *Singlet* in Silver Island Pass and a collision occurred, the *Singlet* striking her on the starboard side just below the water line. The *Tachang Maru* began to take in water and the pumps were set going, but despite this, Captain Tsai decided to beach his vessel and did so near Golden Island. The *Singlet* sustained considerable damage about the bows and was also beached. Operations to free the *Tachang Maru* of water were continued and it was then found that the damage was not so great as was first surmised. The cargo, which was stored in the tween decks, escaped damage entirely, as only the lower holds were filled with water. Fortunately none of the passengers were injured by the collision, all being safely landed. The *Singlet* did not fare so well, as portion of her cargo was damaged.

The Chinese steamer *Kiangching* is also beached, but this was done by her captain in order to avoid a collision with the two vessels above mentioned. As far as we can ascertain no great damage has been sustained by the *Kiangching*, and as soon as she is floated she will continue her voyage.

The *Tachang Maru* was expected to arrive at Shanghai on 5th inst., in tow of the *Tokang Maru*, and she will be docked for overhaul and repairs. The *Singlet* will, we understand, need temporary repairs before she can come down the river.

COMMERCIAL.

YARN MARKET.

In their report dated 8th instant, Messrs. Phiroozza B. Petit & Co. write:—

Our last circular was dated the 24th December, 1908.

The past fortnight has been one of comparative inactivity due to explainable causes. The first of these is the fact of the near approach of China New Year which falls on the 22nd inst. According to custom Chinese dealers do not look upon the eleventh moon of their calendar year as a propitious one for entering into fresh engagements. The period is rather one which finds the natives busy in closing their accounts preparatory to their departure for home districts, or to enjoy their annual recess following the New Year by those whose family ties bind them to the Colony for the time being.

What little business that has been effected during the past fortnight has been the result of inter-dealing between dealers themselves. Under the influence of a steady exchange, with a sharp recovery at this writing, importers were willing to give way one to two dollars per bale on last week's quotations. With these concessions a few settlements transpired. The effect of the present business being carried on in second-hands will be to further reduce the already diminished stocks in importers' godowns, and in view of an anticipated improvement in the silver market, prospects of renewed activity in the yarn market are within measurable distance as soon as the China New Year holidays are over.

From Japan the report reaches us that forward sales have been contracted for delivery from January to April to Chinese firms both in Osaka and Shanghai. After the prolonged period of inactivity in the Japanese cotton yarn market, these forward sales amounting to some 21,500 bales, of which 5,500 are reported on Japanese account, may be accepted as an indication of the hopeful outlook which the consuming districts are capable of opening with political and physical conditions in the country assuming their normal aspect.

No. 20s.—Suitable and selected threads were sold at a decline of \$1.10 \$1.14 per bale.

No. 16s.—Only one Mill's production changed hands at current rates.

Nos. 12s. and 10s.—Only a few Mill's production found buyers at a decline of \$1 to \$1.14 per bale.

Nos. 8s. and 6s.—Nothing doing.

Market closes steady.

Sales:—275 bales of No. 10s., 175 bales of No. 12s., 50 bales of No. 16s., and 300 bales of No. 20s.; in all about 800 bales.

Arrivals:—Per steamers *Amoy*, *Wakamiji Maru* and *Delit* of about 8,000 bales.

Unsold Stock:—About 23,000 bales.

Uncleared Stock:—About 12,000 bales.

Exchange:—We quote to-day as follows:—

India T.T.	At Rs. 13 1/2 per cent.
London T.T.	"Sh. 19 1/100 = \$
"Demand	"19 1/100 = \$
Shanghai	"Tis. 75 = \$100.
Silver	"23 1/100 per oz.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.

London—Bank T.T. 1/9 1/16

Do. demand 9 1/16

Do. 4 months' sight 1/9 1/16

France—Bank T.T. 2/10 1/2

America—Bank T.T. 42 1/2

Germany—Bank T.T. 1/7 1/2

Do. demand.

Shanghai—Bank T.T. 75 1/2

Singapore—Bank T.T. per H.K. \$100 75 1/2

Japan—Bank T.T. 26 1/2

Do. demand.

1 month's sight L/O 7 1/2

1 month's sight L/O 7 1/2

1 day's sight San Francisco & New York 4 1/2

Do. demand.

30 days' sight Sydney & Melbourne 1 1/2

1 month's sight France 2 1/2

1 month's sight Germany 2 1/2

Do. demand.

Bar Silver 23 1/100

Bank of England rate 23 1/100

Service 23 1/100

To-day's Advertisements.

LOST.

BETWEEN ASTOR HOUSE and Victoria Clocktower Co., ONE POCKET BOOK containing a few documents. Finder will be rewarded on returning same to ASTOR HOUSE, Hongkong, 8th January, 1909. [70]

HONGKONG PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

PATRON H.E. Sir FREDERICK LUGARD, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O. CONCERT. TO-DAY, JANUARY 8TH, AT 9.15 P.M., in the CITY HALL.

Scherzo (two pianos) Guilmant
Fantasia (two pianos) Guilmant
Brioso, ask of himself (vocal) Elgar
Choral Fantasia Vincent and other items.

SOLOISTS: Mrs. Barrett, Mrs. Cochrane, Mrs. Grove, Mr. Denman Fuller, Mr. Frank Grove.

Chorus and Orchestra: 80 PERFORMERS. Tickets: \$1 and \$2 at the ROBINSON PIANO CO., LTD. Hongkong, 8th January, 1909. [65]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED. FOR SWATOW.

THE Company's Steamship "HAIMUN." Captain Evans, will be despatched for the above Port, on SUNDAY, the 10th instant, at 10 o'clock A.M. For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LARPAIK & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 8th January, 1909. [74]

THE INTERNATIONAL OPIUM COMMISSION.

INTERVIEW WITH AN AMERICAN DELEGATE.

Dr. Hamilton Wright, one of the American Delegates to the International Opium Commission, arrived in Shanghai on Sunday, and is staying at the Palace Hotel. Dr. Hamilton Wright, in an interview with a representative of the *N. C. Daily News*, on the 4th inst., stated that the Commission had been called together at the instance of the Hon. Elihu Root, Secretary of State. America had her own opium problem in the Philippines and elsewhere, and the State Department found that there was a great deal of dispute as to the evils connected with the consumption or smoking of opium. Mr. Root, therefore, considered that the time was ripe for summoning Commissioners, representing the various Governments interested in the opium problem, to study the question from every side. It was considered advisable that the Commission should be an international body, rather than that a report should be prepared by delegates of an interested Power. The Chinese Government has been making strenuous efforts to control its opium evil, and therefore it, and the other Powers having territorial possessions in the Far East, were invited to appoint Commissioners. Invitations were first issued to Great Britain, China, Japan, Germany, Holland Portugal and France, and when the U.S. Government found that they were readily responded to, it was decided to make the Commission wider in its scope, and accordingly Russia, Turkey, Persia and Siam were also invited to send delegates. The other great Powers, such as Italy, Austria and Spain were not approached because they had neither territorial possessions in the Far East, nor any opium problem to cope with elsewhere. At the solicitation of the U.S. State Department the various Governments concerned appointed their Commissioners as early as possible, so that they could make a thorough study of the opium question in their respective spheres. Thus, they will be in a position, on the assembling of the Commission, to lay reports concerning the opium question, as it affects their possessions, on the table, and the Commission, instead of being called upon to receive voluminous evidence, will be in a position to grapple with the various problems that present themselves, immediately.

The Commissioners have been asked either to work for a joint international report, signed by all the delegates, or, if that is found impracticable, to make reports on the subjects discussed by the Commission to their respective Governments. It is hoped that the original idea of a joint international report will result from the deliberations of the Commission.

Dr. Hamilton Wright authorized our contemporary's representative to state that the American Commission represents the United States and its territories and possessions and that no portion, such as Hawaii, can send a delegate with any official standing as a Commissioner.

The American Commissioners have made a thorough study of the opium problem in so far as it affects America and American possessions. Briefly stated, the object of the Conference will be to decide the extent of the opium evil, and then to recommend measures for controlling it. It has no power to make any agreements—they must be the subject of subsequent negotiations between the Powers concerned. Finally, Dr. Hamilton Wright laid great stress upon the fact that the delegates have been appointed to a Commission—not a Conference—and that their work will be to study the question in its various aspects, and then to make such recommendations as they may think fit.

To-day's Advertisements.

THE TRADE MARKS ORDINANCE, 1898.

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF A TRADE MARK.

NOTICE is hereby given that ALEXANDER RICHARD ROBY HASSAN, Manager of CONNELL BROTHERS COMPANY, Hongkong, has, on the 15th day of August, 1908, applied for the Registration in Hongkong, in the Register of Trade Marks, of the following Trade Mark:—

The representation of a Cow in a standing position with the word "Cow" underneath.

In the name of Messrs. CONNELL BROTHERS COMPANY, who claim to be the sole proprietors thereof.

The Trade Mark has been used by the Applicant in respect of FLOUR in Class 42.

A Facsimile of the Trade Mark can be seen at the Office of the Colonial Secretary of Hongkong.

Dated the 8th day of January, 1909. WILKINSON & GRIST, on behalf of CONNELL BROTHERS COMPANY.

THE TRADE MARKS ORDINANCE, 1898.

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF A TRADE MARK.

NOTICE is hereby given that PEARSON'S ANTISEPTIC CO., LIMITED, of 15 Elm Street, Gray's Inn Road, London, England, Disinfectant Merchants, have, on the 27th day of November, 1908, applied for the Registration in Hongkong, in the Register of Trade Marks, of the following Trade Mark:—

"HYCOL"

In the name of PEARSON'S ANTISEPTIC CO., LIMITED, who claim to be the sole proprietors thereof.

The Trade Mark has been used by the Applicants since 19th August, 1908, in respect of the following goods:—

Disinfectant for use for agricultural, horticultural, veterinary and sanitary purposes, in Class 2.

A facsimile of the Trade Mark can be seen at the Office of the Colonial Secretary of Hongkong.

Dated the 8th day of January, 1909. WILKINSON & GRIST, on behalf of PEARSON'S ANTISEPTIC CO., LIMITED.

THE TRADE MARKS ORDINANCE, 1898.

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF A TRADE MARK.

NOTICE is hereby given that PEARSON'S ANTISEPTIC CO., LIMITED, of 15 Elm Street, Gray's Inn Road, London, England, Disinfectant Merchants, have, on the 27th day of November, 1908, applied for the Registration in Hongkong, in the Register of Trade Marks, of the following Trade Mark:—

"CARYO SOL"

In the name of PEARSON'S ANTISEPTIC CO., LIMITED, who claim to be the sole proprietors thereof.

The Trade Mark has been used by the Applicants since 28th July, 1908, in respect of the following goods:—

Chemical substance prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy, in Class 3.

A facsimile of the Trade Mark can be seen at the Office of the Colonial Secretary of Hongkong.

Dated the 8th day of January, 1909. WILKINSON & GRIST, on behalf of PEARSON'S ANTISEPTIC CO., LIMITED.

Intimations.

FOUND.

AT the Club Lusitano, on the 2nd inst., after the first performance of "The Gesta," One GOLD LADY'S BRACELET, with Chinese Gold Coin pendant. Owner can have same on application to—THE SECRETARY, Club Lusitano. Hongkong, 5th January, 1909. [6]

LOST.

SILVER BUCKLE attached to coloured Belt, Peak Road. Reward, if delivered at the GERMAN CONSULATE. Hongkong, 7th January, 1909. [69]

To Let.

TO LET.

GODOWN No. 6A, DUNDRELL STREET. Apply to—THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD. Hongkong, 1st December, 1908. [52]

TO LET.

HATHERLEIGH, CONDUIT ROAD. A HOUSE in WONG-NEI-CHONG ROAD. A HOUSE in RIMOW TERRACE.

OFFICES in YONG EAST, BLUE BUILDINGS, and No. 16, DES VOGES ROAD next to the Hongkong Hotel.

FLATS in MORETON TERRACE, No. 10, DES VOGES ROAD CENTRAL, 1st Floor.

Apply to—THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD. Hongkong, 1st December, 1908. [44]

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

THE interest and Responsibility in our Firm of our late Mr. CARL GEORG RICHARD BRODERSEN ceased upon his death, which took place at Shanghai on the 2nd October last.

Mr. HANS AUGUST SIEBS and Mr. EUGEN SIEBERT have this day been admitted as partners in our firm.

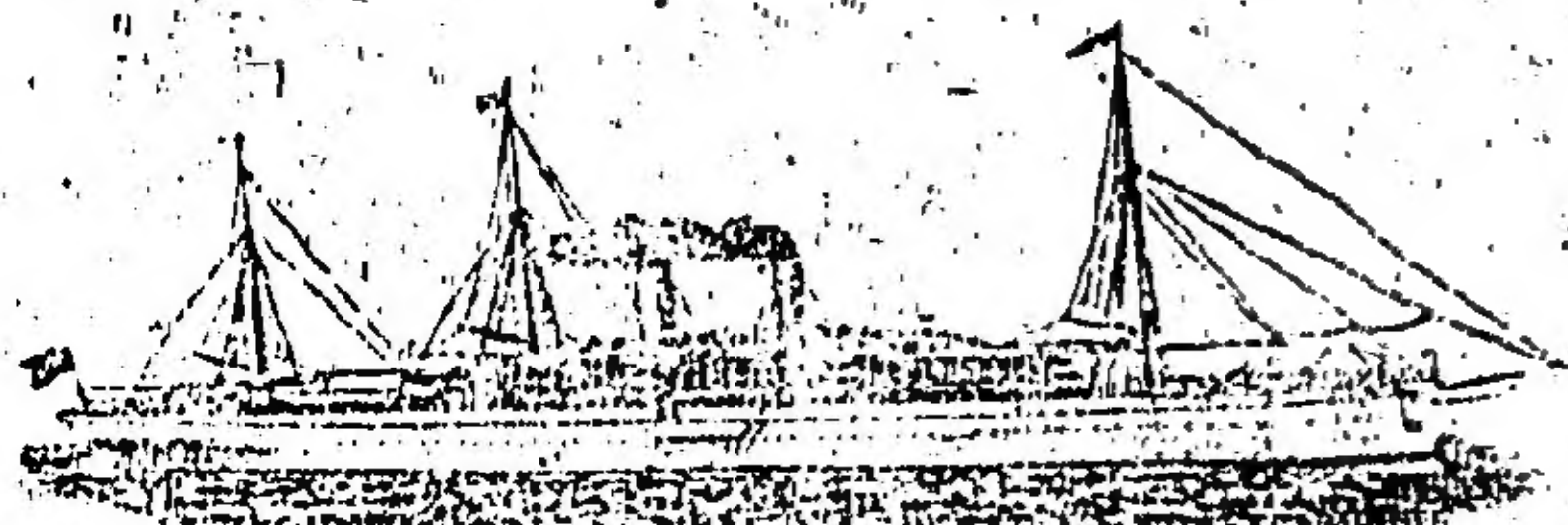
SIEMSEN & CO. Shanghai, Hongkong & China, 1st January, 1909. [53]

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

MR. PERCY TESTER has been appointed LOCAL MANAGER of the above Company's HONGKONG BRANCH from this date.

W. H. TRENCHARD DAVIS, Manager for China. Shanghai, 1st January, 1909. [54

Shipping—Steamers.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COY'S
ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.

Luxury—Speed—Punctuality.

The only Line that Maintains a Regular Schedule Service of under 12 Days across the Pacific is the "Empress Line." Saving 5 to 10 Days Ocean Travel.

12 Days YOKOHAMA to HONGKONG. 21 Days HONGKONG to VANCOUVER.

PROPOSED SAILINGS. (Subject to Alteration).

R.M.S.	Tons	LEAVE HONGKONG	ARRIVE VANCOUVER
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN"	6,000	SATURDAY, Jan. 16th	Feb. 5th, 1909.
"EMPRESS OF CHINA"	6,000	SATURDAY, Feb. 13th	March 5th
"MONTEAGLE"	6,193	TUESDAY, Mar. 2nd	Mar. 20th
"EMPRESS OF INDIA"	6,000	SATURDAY, Mar. 13th	April 2nd
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN"	6,000	SATURDAY, April 10th	April 30th
"EMPRESS OF CHINA"	6,000	SATURDAY, May 1st	May 21st

"EMPRESS" steamships will leave Hongkong at 7 A.M.

S.S. "MONTEAGLE" at 12 Noon.

THE Quickest route to CANADA, UNITED STATES AND EUROPE, calling at SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, (through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN), KOBE, YOKOHAMA, and VICTORIA, B.C., connecting at VANCOUVER with a Special Mail Express, and at QUEBEC, with the Company's New Mail Express Steamships, 14,500 tons register, thus providing a comfortable and speedy through route to Europe.

Hongkong to London, 1st Class via Canadian Atlantic Ports or New York 27-30. Hongkong to London, Intermediate or Steamer, and 1st Class on Railways 40. 42. 44.

First-class rates to London include cost of Meals and Berth in Sleeping Car while crossing the American Continent by Canadian, Pacific direct line.

R.M.S. "MONTEAGLE" carries Intermediate or Passengers only, at Intermediate rates, affording superior accommodation for that class.

Passengers booked through to all ports and AROUND THE WORLD.

SPECIAL THROUGH RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Navy, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan Governments.

For further information, Maps, Routes, Hand Books, Rates of Freight and Passage, apply to J. W. GRADDOCK, General Traffic Agent for China, &c., Corner, Pedder Street and Praya, Opposite Black Pier.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

(PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

For	Steamship	On
SHANGHAI	TSINGI	SUNDAY, 10th Jan., Daylight.
KOBE	UNSAK	MONDAY, 11th Jan., 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE, & MOI	FOOKSANG	MONDAY, 11th Jan., Noon.
BANDAKAN	MAUSANG	TUESDAY, 12th Jan., Noon.
SINGAPORE and SOERABAYA	CHUNSAK	TUESDAY, 12th Jan., 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI	CHIPSILING	WEDNESDAY, 13th Jan., 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI	NIANGSANG	THURSDAY, 14th Jan., 4 P.M.
SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA	YUENSANG	FRIDAY, 15th Jan., Noon.
MANILA	YUENSANG	FRIDAY, 15th Jan., 4 P.M.

FOR THE MANILA CARNIVAL—Feb. 2nd to 9th 1909.

A Special reduced fare of \$50 for Return Passengers will be issued for our Sailings to Manila, of the 29th January, and 5th February, available for 30 days from date of issue. Passengers taking out these tickets are exempt from the Head Tax.

* Steamers have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Yangtze Ports, Chefoo, Tientsin & Newchwang.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Kudat, Lahad, Datu, Simporna, Tawau, Usukan, Jesselton and Labuan.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE MATHESON & CO., LD.,

General Managers.

Telephone No. 61.

Hongkong, 8th January, 1909.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
SAMARANG & SOERABAYA	"TIENTIN"	11th Jan., 4 P.M.
PAKHOI & HAIPHONG	"CHILLI"	11th Jan., 10 A.M.
MANILA	"TEAN"	12th Jan., 3 P.M.
MANILA	"TAMING"	19th Jan., 4 P.M.
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA and USUAL AUSTRALIAN PORTS	"CHANGSHA"	31st Jan., 4 P.M.

MANILA and TIENTSIN STEAMERS have superior Passenger accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the Staterooms and Dining Saloon.

AUSTRALIAN STEAMERS have superior accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the Staterooms. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried. Cargo booked through for all Australian, New Zealand and Tasmanian Ports.

SHANGHAI STEAMERS have good Saloon Passenger accommodation and take cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.

Reduced Saloon Fares, Single and Return, to Manila and Australia.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

AGENTS.

Telephone No. 36.

Hongkong, 8th January, 1909.



HONGKONG—MANILA.

Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers between Hongkong and Manila.—Saloon amidships—Electric Light—Perfect Cuisine—Surgeon and Stewards carried.—All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Steamship	Tons	Captain	For	Sailing Dates
RUBI	550	Almond	MANILA	SATURDAY, 9th Jan., at Noon.
ZAFIRO	550	R. Rodger	"	SATURDAY, 16th Jan., at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,

General Managers.

Telephone No. 12.

Hongkong, 8th January, 1909.

Shipping—Steamers.



THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM

FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA, PERMAN GULF, CONTINENTAL, AMERICAN and SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship

"ASSAYE," Captain C. L. Daniel, carrying His Majesty's Mail, will be despatched from this for BOMBAY, &c., TO-MORROW, the 9th January, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports in connection with the Company's India, India, 8,000 tons, from Colombo, Passengers' accommodation in which vessel is secured before departure from Hongkong.

Ships and Valuable, all Cargo for France, and Tea, for London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Colombo into the Mail steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London, other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed via Bombay by the R.M.S. "Perla," due in London on 20th February, 1909.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required.

For further Particulars, apply to

K. A. HEWETT,

Superintendent.

Hongkong, 8th January, 1909.

THE BANK LINE LIMITED.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Overland Common Points in the United States of America and Canada, and also for the principal ports in Mexico, and Central and South America.

Steamship	Tons	Captain	Sailing Date
Invincible	4,700	R. J. Howie	14th Jan., 1909
Invincible	4,700	R. J. Howie	14th Jan., 1909
Invincible	4,700	R. J. Howie	14th Jan., 1909

These Steamers are specially fitted for the carriage of American Steamer passengers.

PARCEL EXPRESS TO THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

For further information, apply to

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED.

General Agents.

Queen's Buildings, Hongkong, 8th January, 1909.

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE

TO NEW YORK, VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL.

(With Liberty to Call at Malabar Coast.)

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

FOR BOSTON & NEW YORK:

S.S. "MUNCASTER CASTLE" 10th Jan.

For Freight and further information, apply to

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,

Agents.

Hongkong, 10th December, 1908.

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS, LTD.

FOR LONDON, ANTWERP AND HAMBURG.

THE Steamship

"CARNARVONSHIRE" will be despatched for the above Ports about end of January, 1909.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 24th December, 1908.

STEAM TO CANTON.

THE New Twin Screw Steel Steamers

"KWONG TUNG" Capt. H. W. WALKER.

"KWONG SAI" Capt. E. S. CROWE.

Leave Hongkong for Canton at 9 every evening, (Saturday excepted).

Leave Canton for Hongkong at 5.30 every evening, (Sunday excepted).

These Fine New Steamers have unexcelled Accommodation for First Class Passengers and are lit throughout by Electricity. Electric Fans in First Class Cabin.

Passage Fare—Single Journey \$4.

Meals \$1.00 per day, including \$1.50 each.

The Company's Wharf is situated in front of the New Western Market, opposite the old Harbour Office.

YUEN ON S.S. CO., LD.,

SHIU ON S.S. CO., LD.,

No. 5, Queen's Road West.

Hongkong, 8th Jan., 1909.

Shipping—Steamers.

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

THE Steamship

"GREGORY APCAR," Captain S. H. Nelson, will be despatched for the above Ports TO-MORROW, the 9th Jan., at 1 P.M., instead of as previously advertised.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DAVID SASSOON & CO., LIMITED, Agents.

Hongkong, 8th January, 1909.

CHARGEURS REUNIS.

(FRENCH STEAMSHIP CO.)

REGULAR FREIGHT SERVICE TO AMERICA.

(CANADA, UNITED STATES, MEXICO, CHILE, RIVER PLATE, BRAZIL.)

Connecting at Vancouver with the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

OVERLAND Cargo taken for ALL CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES POINTS.

THE Steamship

"AMIKAL DUPERRÉ," Captain Martin, will be despatched on the 10th Jan., for VANCOUVER, SAN FRANCISCO, &c., as above.

For further particulars apply to the Agent—

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

Hongkong, 2nd January, 1909.

Dentistry.

TSIN TING.

LATEST METHODS OF DENTISTRY.

STUDIO AT NO. 14, D'AGUIER STREET.

REASONABLE FEES.

Consultation Free.

Hongkong, 20th June, 1904.

Dr. M. H. CHAUN,

THE LATEST METHOD

of the

AMERICAN SYSTEM OF DENTISTRY

11, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

From the University of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

Hongkong, 14th Jan., 1909.

Intimations.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

In Casks of 37½ lbs. net \$5.50 per Cask ex Factory.

In Bags of 50 lbs. net \$3.45 per Bag ex Factory.

SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 15th August, 1908.

F. BLACKHEAD & Co.,

SHIP-OHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS, COAL AND PROVISION MERCHANTS, NAVAL CONTRACTORS AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.

GROUND FLOOR, ST. GEORGE'S BUILDING, HONGKONG.

SOAP AND SODA MANUFACTURERS.

SOLE AGENTS FOR HARTMANN'S RAHTEN'S GENUINE COMPOSITION RED HAND BRAND, HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT DAHLER'S PATENT MOTOR LAUNCHES, &c., &c., &c.

Sole Agents for FERGUSON'S SPECIAL CREAM and P & O. SPECIAL LIQUOR BOTTLING WHISKY, &c.

EVERY KIND OF SHIP'S STORES AND REQUISITES ALWAYS IN STOCK AT REASONABLE PRICES.

Hongkong, 9th March, 1909.

LEE YEE

HAIR DRESSING SALOON.

HAS ALWAYS ON HAND

CIGARS, CIGARETTES

AND

TOILET REQUISITES

FOR SALE

12, D'AGUIER STREET, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 1st September, 1909.

HONGKONG AVERAGE MARKET PRICES.

Corrected 31st December, 100 cts. per \$ Mar.

BUTCHER MEAT.

Beef sirloin & prime cut—Moi Lung Pak 18

" Corned—Ham Ngau Yuk 18

" Roast—Shiu 18

" Breast—Ngau Lam 15

" Soup, Tong Yuk 18

" Steak—Ngau Yuk Pak 28

" Sausages—Ngau Yuk Ching 26

Bullock's Brains—Kuo 10

" Tongue fresh—Ngau Li 50

" Corned—Ham Ngau Li 58

" Head—Ngau Tau 80

" Heart—Ngau Sui 18

" Hump, Salt—Ngau Kiu 18

" Feet—Ngau Kook 7

" Kidneys—Ngau Yiu 10

" Tail—Ngau Mei 17

" Liver—Ngau Con 12

" Tripe (unpressed)—Ngau To 7

Calves' Head and Feet—Ngau Chai 1.00

" Mutton Chop—Yeung Pak Kwat 22

" Leg—Yeung Pak 22

" Shoulder—Yeung Shau 20

Pigs' Chiklins—Chi cheung 22

" Brains—Chi Know 22

" Feet—Chi Kook 11

" Fry—Chi Chik 25

" Head—Chi Tau 25

" Heart—Chi Sum 8

" Kidneys—Chi Yiu 7

" Liver—Chi Kon 24

Pork Chop—Chi Pak Kwat 13

" Corned—Ham Chu Yuk 17

" Leg—Chi Pak 17

" Fat or Lard—Chi Yau 17

Sheep's Head and Feet—Yeung Tau 50

" Kook 50

" Heart—Yeung Sum 6

" Kidneys—Yeung Yiu 10

" Liver—Yeung Con 12

Sacking Pigs, To Order—Chi Chai 22

Soot Beef—Sung Ngau Yau 20

" Mutton—Sung Yeung Yau 24

Veal—Ngau Chai Yuk 20

" Sausages—Ngau Chai Yuk Tong 20

POULTRY.

Chicken—Kai Chai 28

Capon, Large, Small—Sin Kai 18

Ducks—Ap 17

Doves—Pan Kau 18

Eggs, Hen—Kai Tan 20

Fowls, Canton—Kai 30

" Hainan—Kai Nam Kai 28

Geese—Nga 20

Goose, Wild Shanghai—Sheung Hoi Ye 1.25

Nga 1.25

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. KADOORIE & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	AID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT	LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATIONS BASED ON LAST YEAR'S DIV.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
				RESERVE	AT WORKING ACCOUNT.		
BANKS.							
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	120,000	\$125	\$125	\$1,500,000	\$2,005,774	Interim of £2 for first half year @ ex 1/2 - 52.945	52 1/2 { \$240 ex. and b. London £2.10 }
National Bank of China, Limited	99,925	£7	£6	\$1,000,000	\$10,525	\$2 (London 3/6) for 1908	5 1/2
MARINE INSURANCES.							
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,500,000	none	\$14 for 1907	7 1/2 \$195 sellers
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	\$1,500,000	Tls. 160,512	Final of 7/6 making 15/- for 1907	5 1/2 Tls. 104 buyers
Canton Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	12,400	\$250	\$100	\$1,500,000	\$2,506,021	Final of 5/- making \$45 for 1908 and Interim of 5/6 for 1907	5 1/2 1825 sales
Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited	12,000	\$100	\$50	\$1,500,000	\$591,763	\$12 and bonus \$5 for 1908	8 1/2 \$175 buyers
FIRE INSURANCES.							
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	0,000	\$100	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$374,432	\$6 and bonus \$2 for 1908	7 1/2 1165
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,500,000	\$428,037	\$27 for 1908	8 1/2 \$125 sellers
SHIPPING.							
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	10,000	\$25	\$21	\$7,000	\$1,035	\$1 for 1908	5 1/2 \$14
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	10,000	\$50	\$50	\$500,000	Nil	\$2 1/2 for year ending 30.4.1908	7 1/2 \$31
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	80,000	\$15	\$15	\$1,200,000	\$17,755	\$1 1/2 for first half-year ending 30.6.08	8 1/2 \$59 1/2 sellers
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Preferred)	60,000	£5	£5	\$1,000,000	£13,755	{ 6/- for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex 1/2 11/16 - 15.15 }	5 1/2 { \$37 1/2 Tls. 47 1/2 buyers }
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited (Preferred)	100,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 75,000	Tls. 14,510	Interim of Tls. 1 for account 1908	7 1/2 Tls. 47 1/2 buyers
Shell Transport and Trading Company, Limited	1,000,000	£1	£1	\$1,000,000	£68,817	Final of 1/- making 3/- for 1907 and Interim of 1/- (No. 10) for a/c 1908	4 1/2 \$24
Star Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$5	\$1,000,000	\$98	{ 5/- for year ending 30.4.1908 }	5 1/2 \$15
Fake Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	10,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 42,479	Tls. 6,866	Final of Tls. 2 1/2 making Tls. 5 for 1907	11 1/2 Tls. 45
REFINERIES.							
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	Dr. \$279,371	\$8 for year ending 31.12.08	11 1/2 112 1/2 sellers
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited	1,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	Dr. \$135,331	\$1 1/2 for year ending 31.8.08	18 sellers
Perak Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	1,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 9,173	\$1 1/2 for year ending 31.8.08	Tls. 90 buyers
Mining.							
Malayan Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	100,000	£1	£1	\$1,000,000	£11,550	Final of 1/6 (coupon No. 11) for year end- ing 29.2.08	7 1/2 Tls. 17 1/2 buyers
Robt. Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	50,000	£1	£1	\$1,000,000	Dr. £2,191	Final of 1/6 (coupon No. 11) for year end- ing 29.2.08	5 1/2 \$8
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.							
Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$25	\$15	\$53,601	\$2,726	\$1.75 for year ending 31.12.08	\$12
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$10	\$10	\$600,000	\$8,556	Final of \$1 1/2 making \$3 1/2 for 1907	7 1/2 \$45 buyers
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$50	\$50	\$2,500,000	\$384,847	Interim of \$4 for account 1908	8 1/2 \$50 sellers
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.	55,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 1,000,000	Tls. 33,741	Interim of Tls. 2 1/2 for 6 months ending 31st October, 1908	6 1/2 Tls. 77 1/2 ex. d.
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, Limited	36,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 75,000	Tls. 22,626	Interim of Tls. 4 for account 1908	6 1/2 Tls. 140
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.							
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.	25,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 25,000	Dr. Tls. 6,531	Tls. 6 for 1907	6 1/2 Tls. 100 1/2
Astor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	30,000	\$15	\$15	\$450,000	Dr. \$4,300	\$1 1/2 for year ending 30.6.07	\$16 1/2 141 buyers
Central Stores, Limited	50,125	\$15	\$15	\$751,875	\$9,178	\$1.80 for 1908	11 1/2 185 buyers
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000	\$50	\$50	\$600,000	\$24,639	Interim of \$3 1/2 for account 1908	7 1/2 \$52 sellers
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.	50,000	\$100	\$100	\$5,000,000	\$26,915	Interim of \$3 1/2 for account 1908	7 1/2 \$52 sellers
Humphreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$4,611	70 cents for 1907	7 1/2 \$53 sellers
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	\$50	\$50	\$300,000	\$65	\$2 1/2 for 1907	5 1/2 Tls. 120 sellers
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 1,523,045	Tls. 107,517	Interim of Tls. 1 for account 1908	7 1/2 \$46
West Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	\$50	\$50	\$625,000	\$1,511	Interim of \$2 for account 1908	9 1/2 Tls. 76 buyers
COTTON MILLS.							
Two Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 150,000	Tls. 8,880	Tls. 5 for year ending 31.12.08	6 1/2 9 buyers
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	125,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,250,000	\$9,553	70 cents for year ending 31.7.08	5 1/2 Tls. 67 1/2
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	Tls. 750,000	Tls. 8,373	Tls. 6 for year ending 30.9.08 (8 1/2)	Tls. 73 sellers
Leong-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 800,000	Tls. 6,308	Tls. 8 for 1908	Tls. 85 buyers
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 200,000	Tls. 29,257	Tls. 50 for 1908	---
MISCELLANEOUS.							
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12/6	12/6	\$1,500	£64	1 1/2 p. share (No. 1907) - \$1.037	12 1/2 \$11
China Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	\$12	\$12	\$720,000	Nil	\$1.20 for 1907	11 1/2 \$52
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$500,000	61,130	60 cents for year ending 28.2.08	8 1/2 \$10 sellers
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ltd.	125,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,250,000	\$3,591	20 cents for 1907	5 1/2 \$23
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	25,000	\$7 1/2	\$6	\$187,500	\$48	\$1.30 for year ending 31.7.08	10 1/2 \$23 sales
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	400,000	\$10	\$10	\$4,000,000	\$5,098	Interim of 40 cents for account 1908	8 1/2 \$12 buyers
H. Price & Company, Limited	12,000	\$10	\$10	\$120,000	\$5,000	75 cents for 9 months ending 31.12.07	10 1/2 \$21 buyers
Hall & Holtz, Limited	21,000	\$20	\$20	\$420,000	\$8,657	\$2 for year ending 28.2.08	10 1/2 \$21 buyers
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	\$10	\$10	\$600,000	\$6,511	\$1 and bonus 20 cts. for year ending 29.2.08	6 1/2 \$220 sellers
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	\$25	\$25	\$125,000	\$4,578	Interim of \$1 for account 1908	8 1/2 \$24 buyers
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	60,000	\$10	\$10	\$600,000	\$8,197	Interim of \$1 for account 1908	8 1/2 \$24 buyers
Matschappij tot Mijn- Bosch en Landbouw- exploitatie in Langkat, Limited	25,000	Gs. 100	Gs. 100	Tls. 547,500	Tls. 17,127	{ 4th Quarterly div. of Tls. 20 and bonus of Tls. 10 making \$50 to date. 80 cents on fully paid shares and 6 cents on \$1 paid shares for year ending 30.4.08 }	5 1/2 Tls. 860 buyers
Peak Tramways Company, Limited	25,000	\$10	\$10	\$250,000	\$7,471	80 cents on 9,000 ord. shares and \$19.80 on 100 Form. 1907 shares for 75, and 31.5.07	6 1/2 \$14
Philippine Company, Limited	75,000	\$10	\$10	\$750,000	Nil	Interim of 30 cts. a/c 1908	6 1/2 \$2
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	24,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 1,200,000	Tls. 6,603	Final of Tls. 4 making Tls. 7 1/2 for 1907	6 1/2 Tls. 120 buyers
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	Tls. 24,800	Tls. 4,401	Final of Tls. 9 making in all Tls. 14 for 1907	12 1/2 Tls. 123 buyers
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	16,350	£20	£20	Tls. 190,000	Tls. 58,152	Final of 37/6 making 52/6 for 1907	---
South China Morning Post, Limited	6,000	\$25	\$25	\$150,000	Dr. \$56,618	None	---
Stam Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	\$5	\$5	\$100,000	\$136	40 cents for year ending 31.5.08	8 1/2 \$24
Tientsin Waterworks Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 200,000	Tls. 801	Tls. 6 1/2 for year ending 30.4.07	8 1/2 Tls. 94 buyers
Yajyo Waterboat Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$500,000	\$111	50 cents for 1907	5 1/2 \$10
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$100,000	\$1,160	80 cents on 9,000 ord. shares and \$19.80 on 100 Form. 1907 shares for 75, and 31.5.07	6 1/2 \$91 buyers
Watson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited	90,000	\$10	\$10	\$900,000	\$5,418	Final of 30 cts. making 80 cts. for the year ending 30th June, 1908	6 1/2 \$4
William Powell, Limited	15,000	\$7	\$7	\$105,000	\$1,65	---	---

* These shares are entitled to half of the profits.

DIVIDENDS PAYABLE:-

Auctions.

AUCTION SALE

PURE IRISH HOUSEHOLD LINENS, LACE AND TAPESTRY CURTAINS, &c., &c.

MESSRS. HUGHES & HOUGH are favoured with instructions to sell by Public Auction,

on

SATURDAY,

the 16th JANUARY, 1909, commencing at 11 A.M. to 12.30 P.M. and from 2.30 P.M. at their

SALES ROOMS,

A Fine Collection of

HIGH CLASS IRISH GOODS,

COMPRISING:-

Pure Irish Hand-embroidered Bedspreads, Gent's Pure Irish Linen Handkerchiefs, Fine White Quilts, Pure Irish Linen Double Damask Table Cloths and Serviettes, Irish Embroidered Pillow Cases, a Varied Assortment of Underskirts, Walking Skirts, Robes, all Linen Double size Bed Ticks, Sheets, Flannelette Nightdresses, Dressing Gowns, Aprons, Fine Turkish Towels, Bath Towels, Bath Sheets, Tapestry Table Covers, Irish Linen Doyleys, Muslin and Embroidered Cushion Covers, Five o'clock Tea Cloths, Toilet Sets, Tea Caddy, Travelling Bags, Children's Clothes and Overcoats, Lace Curtains, Tapestry Curtains, &c., &c.

AND

A Small Quantity of "Witney" Blankets and Suit Lengths.

The above Goods will be on view from Thursday, 14th January, p.m.

Catalogues may be had on application.

Hongkong, 6th January, 1909

(59)

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION,

FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,

TO-MORROW,

the 9th January, 1909, at 2.30 P.M. at their

Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road,

corner of Ice House Street,

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF

JAPANESE CURIOS,

Comprising:-

SILK-EMBROIDERED WALL HANG-

INGS, BED COVERS, KIMONOS, TABLE

COVERS, SCREENS, VERY FINE JAPANESE

WATER COLOURS, CARVED IVORY

FIGURES and NETSUKES, BRONZE,

BRASS VASES, BOWLS and FIGURES,

TORTOISE-SHELL ORNAMENTS, KIN-

KOSAN SATSUMA VASES, TEA SETS,

MAKUDUZO and KOGO VASES and TEA

SETS, KAGA and NAGAYA TEA SETS,

&c., &c., &c.

Catalogues will be issued.

TERMS:-As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 8th January, 1909.

Intimations.

PHILATELIC NOVELTY

suitable for

PRESENTS.

BAGS OF USED POSTAGE STAMPS

Containing:-

All Asiatic Stamps

4,000 for \$8.00

3,000 " 7.00

2,000 " 6.00

1,000 " 5.00

500 " 2.50

300 " 1.50

All Chinese Stamps

4,000 for \$4.50

3,000 " 4.00

2,000 " 3.50

1,000 " 3.00

500 " 2.50

300 " 2.00

Also Stamps in Packets and Sets, and other

Philatelic Requisites at prices to suit every-

body.

VIEW POSTCARDS, ALBUMS, HINGES,

RAPHAEL TUCK'S TOY BOOKS AND

RELIEF SCRAPPS,

MANILA CIGARS AND CIGARETTES,

&c., &c., &c.

Inspection invited.

GRACA & CO.,

No. 27, Des Vaux Road.

50

50

50

50

50

Intimations

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m.

7.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes

9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes

11.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes

12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. Every 15 minutes

1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes

1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. Every 15 minutes

2.15 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes

3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes

5.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes

NIGHT CARS.

4.45 p.m. and 9 p.m. 9.45 p.m. to 11.15 p.m.

every half hour.

SUNDAYS.

8.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes